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# THE MARYLAND FARMER:

DEVOTED TO  
AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE,



LIVE STOCK  
and RURAL ECONOMY.

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## "Hark Back!"

The object in view in these essays, the reader will see, is first to show that practical agriculture has advanced but little, during the last fifty years, by the efforts of the workers of the soil of themselves. Whatever has been its rapid strides onward in labor-saving, and at same time, in increased production, has been owing to the skill and science of mechanical genius. Secondly, in the hope that the facts elicited by references to the past, will inspire our farmers of high and low degree to make *experiments*—practical experiments all the time, for their own and the public benefit. Experiments alone are the sure tests of any system of culture, effects of fertilizers, care of fruits or other products, &c.

We will not extend our view into the past ages, to show how much better agriculture was understood then than now, allowing for the light of science, which ages have slowly contributed by way of improvement in agricultural machinery and implements. We mean that farmers by their own practical experiments, have, of late years, added nothing of value to those fundamental principles recognized for ages by the intelligent husbandman.

What plant fertilizer has been introduced that has been of such immense benefit, as gypsum—land-plaster—first experimented with by Robert R. Livingston of New York, and Thomas Jefferson, of Virginia? What grass seed has been made known to agriculturists, of wider renown and of more useful qualities for the farmer, than our

*Timothy*, taking its name from the Christian name of its discover—Timothy Hanson—an intelligent, observant, Quaker farmer of Maryland? Yet the earth is full of mineral matter, and the world's flora teems with herbs, flowers and grasses, much of all which have never been fully experimented with for various purposes, and the field therefore remains open for naturalists, close observers and experimenters. What a wide exposure for investigation! Who will be the first active and devoted explorer? There are fortunes and fame hidden away in this vast reservoir, to be grasped by the one or many, who may diligently and scientifically search for the treasures.

Let us "hark back," only a half or quarter of a century, and learn, what were then called advanced ideas, since practiced upon and found to be true and judicious.

In the agricultural portion of the Report of the Commissioner of Patents, for the year 1852, we find an able essay upon "American Agricultural Literature," from the pen of that accomplished writer, Dr. Daniel M. Lee, from which we make the following quotation:

"One hundred thousand copies of Dr. Liebig's speculations on the growth of cultivated plants, have been printed and sold in this country, while the more correct views of Dr. Mitchell, written and printed before Liebig was born, have received no consideration whatever. We often neglect, and too often repudiate, the rural science and literature of our own citizens as worthless, and receive as law and gospel in agriculture, the hastily-formed opinions of for-

eigners. It appears to be easier to adopt the notions of other nations, whether right or wrong, than to think, study, and reach the truth by original investigations of our own.

On page 41, of the first volume of Transactions, Mr. Livingston makes the following statement:

"MAY 20, 1791.—I received a piece of flax, about half an acre, sown by a poor tenant very judiciously, on a dry, sandy declivity; it looked (as might be expected) extremely sickly, and, as it was evident that it had not sufficient stamina to sustain the heat of summer, he proposed ploughing it up. I took upon me to be its physician, and prescribed three bushels of gypsum, to be taken the next morning, while the dew was on the ground. I sent him the dose, which was faithfully administered, and I had the satisfaction of seeing him gather more flax from this half acre, notwithstanding the uncommon drought of the summer, than any acre in this neighborhood afforded.

N. B.—I borrowed this hint from Mr. William Cockburne, who had experienced the beneficial effects of gypsum on flax."

To "borrow" useful knowledge, never impoverishes the lender; therefore it is that the wisest men are able to lend and borrow the most valuable information. Dr. Elliot, of Connecticut, in the last century experimented in feeding hogs on dry corn and corn soaked in water. The latter was found to be much the better way, in an economical point of view. This and many other useful suggestions are given to the public in his essay on husbandry. We can now add, from recent experiments, that boiled corn is better than soaked, or ground and not cooked.

Under the heading "The manure of leached ashes," Mr. L'Hommedieu says: "Ten loads of this manure on poor land, [on Long Island,] will produce ordinarily twenty-five bushels of wheat, which exceeds by five dollars, the expense of the manure; the five dollars pays for the expense of labor in raising the crop. The land is then left in a state for yielding a crop of hay of between two and one and a half tons per acre, which it will continue to do for a great number of years. In short, no manure has been found as yet, to continue so long in the ground as leached ashes."

One of the best articles on the tarring of seed-corn before planting and rolling it in

plaster or ashes, was from the pen of James G. Graham, Esq., and read before the Society, February 28, 1798. He calls particular attention to the still common error of tarring dry corn, which has the effect to exclude moisture when planted, and of course prevent the germination of the seed. Seed corn should be soaked before it is coated with either cold or warm tar; and it should be immediately planted in fresh earth. To try again, either before or after planting, affects injuriously the vitality of the germ. Tar protects the seed from the attacks of grubs and worms, birds, squirrels and mice.

A well-filled volume of a thousand pages might be compiled from contributions to the agricultural literature of the United States in the 18th century, showing that the farmers of the Revolution, their fathers and grandfathers, were in no respect the inferiors of men of their class in any other nation. Under date of April 28, 1797, Noah Webster, gives an interesting account of his success and experiments in growing potatoes. To form the most perfect tubers, he says, that potato hills should not be less than four feet apart, especially where the soil is rich and the tops and vines spread much. L'Hommedieu's description of the Hessian fly, showing that two generations are produced in a year, has never been essentially improved, although written over sixty years ago."

### Farm Work for August.

Whilst this is looked on as the farmer's leisure month, there is enough to fully occupy his thoughts and time, regarding farm labor. It is a month peculiarly suited to under-draining and making new, and putting in order old, open ditches—cleaning up fields for fallowing, killing weeds, briars and shrubs: white or color-washing fences and out-buildings, if not done before; getting together masses of material for compost heaps, from ditch-banks, weeds, leaves, old straw, &c. Hundreds of loads of such nuisances as they exist unutilized, are wasting and breeding malaria, daily on all our farms: If properly cared for it could easily be converted into heaps, as precious as money, for, decomposed and mixed with the soil, will next year produce golden grain instead of ill health—prosperity instead of disease and discontent. A convenient and cheap way to secure a large amount of

material for composting, at the same time checking the spread of weeds, aiding in looks and material benefit to the farm, is that pursued by some of our more advanced farmers. Set your mower to work and run over all your fields, rake up the stuff mown, and cart it off to the places of deposit. This work cleans the meadow and pastures of weeds, briars and bushes, left by the stock, and sweeps the grain fields of the rag-weed, &c. that follows a grain crop, and prevents the exhaustion of the soil by such growth, which, if allowed to bear ripe seed, will perpetuate ten fold its species, and injure the fertility of the soil more than the grain did. By this system, order, neatness and fertility will be obtained, while a fund of great amount will be added to the *farm-bank*, on which drafts should be made often, for they are never dishonored, and never when used fail to pay well, if they do not always pay a premium.

#### Corn.

Work often and stir only the surface—level culture, not too deep but often, is the motto, provided it requires it, from effects of late planting or on account of the season. If it has been properly cultivated, stop as soon as it shows sign of a general tasselling. At last working, sow cow-peas, 1 bushel per acre, to be put in by the cultivators, at the same operation. If the land be light and fertile, sow rye instead of peas, and sow one gallon per acre of clover seed. Cover all with cultivator at this last working of the corn. We have seen fine crops of rye and clover after such a course. The object of sowing peas is to enrich the soil for a grain crop, by turning them under after a few days or weeks growth, between the cutting off the corn as soon as glazed, and the time for turning under, prior to sowing the wheat. In most seasons, the whole can be performed with light work in ample time for the green mass, to be decomposed sufficiently to be harrowed and drilled nicely.

#### Rye.

Sow this crop early if you wish a good return for your labor. This crop delights in a light, friable soil, full of silica, with plenty of potash and sulphuric acid in its possession; if not, see that these ingredients are supplied by manipulated manures, or artificially. The old idea is exploded, that rye is a mendicant, that will flourish on any poor soil. It is hardy, and can live on rough fare, but it will re-pay by a generous treatment, as much or more, than any grain crop we know, unless it be buckwheat.

#### Buckwheat.

It is not too late to sow early this month,

some buckwheat. Treat it well, and it will make correspondent returns.

#### Potatoes.

Keep these well worked until they blossom, then leave them with a broad, flat hill, and if necessary, hand-weed hereafter.

#### Tobacco.

Keep the tobacco plants, free from worms and suckers.—Suffer no plant to show a blossom, except such as are reserved for seed. Top low, as soon as it "buttons"—12 leaves to a stalk is better than 20—more pounds to the acre will be made. Some plants will this year be ready for housing now, and if so, remember to cut and handle with care, and see that it is not exposed too long to the sun, or it will *sun kill*, and be injured. Hang it up quickly and allow a good distance between the sticks, to be re-hung closer after a few days wilting. If possible, cure by the new system of heating by hot air or water, which is an improvement upon the Dorsey Maryland plan of furnaces, which was in vogue some years back.

But, above all, make war on the worms and kill, kill! the horn-blowers by every means, and at all hazards. Remember one horn-blower breeds thousands of worms for this crop and for the next, increasing in numbers and power every year.

#### Fences.

Look well to these, especially all those around the tempting corn fields. One hole discovered, or one weak place, will induce the stock to look for or make others, by assiduous attention.

#### Fallowing for Wheat or Grass.

Plow the land deep, and harrow smooth. After the vegetation is well rotted, cross plow after manuring, but not so deep as the first plowing. Harrow again, until the whole is light and well pulverized. sowing broadcast at same time a rich fertilizer adapted to the crop to follow. If for wheat, drill in one bushel of clean, well prepared seed per acre, about the 25th of next month, or the 10th of October. If for meadow, sow mixed seeds, clover the most prominent, bush it in, or seed with the smoothing harrow, and then roll all down close and level. If the land is low, run water furrows every 20 feet apart, to carry off surface water.

#### Stock.

See that the stock on pasture, have clear, cool water to drink, ready access to salt and ashes, and are protected against all annoyances, such as dogs, bad smells or want of shade. If there be no fine shade trees or groves in the pastures, be sure to erect sheds of plank, or shelters of bush

on some airy knoll in the field. Here, the stock will instinctively retire during the heat of the day, and that poor spot will soon be the richest in the pasture, by the voiding of the cattle.

#### Poultry Houses.

Keep these clean, well littered and plastered, and limed. Save all the droppings with the litter and you will have a pile of the best guano, to mix next spring with dry earth or sand, for your garden, tobacco beds or corn hills.

### Garden Work for August.

There are but few plants at this season, that render the culinary garden at all attractive. The peppers, cauliflowers, egg plants, coss lettuce and tomatoes with cucumbers and nasturtium, are worthy of observation.

*Seeds.*—Save the seeds of the best of the various plants grown, as they ripen.

*Weeds and Grass.*—Keep the garden perfectly clear of all grass and weeds.

*Strawberry Beds.*—Work these, mulch with half rotted stable manure, and cut off the runners as fast as they appear, except such as are reserved for planting next month or for sale this autumn. Encourage the growth of these by an occasional heavy watering with liquid manure, not too strong, or soap suds and plaster, and ashes dusted over them afterward.

*The Dwarf Pears and the Grapes.*—Must be kept free from caterpillars and bugs. Thin the fruit where too thick and nip the ends of the branches of both, and of all the dwarf trees, where it is necessary for the health of the vine or the tree, or to preserve a uniformity and evenness of shape, which not only adds to the beauty, but to the future usefulness of the plant.

*Cabbages.*—Keep those already set out, well worked, and set out more early in the month. You cannot have too many cabbages in winter.

*Pickling.*—Commence pickling. It is not, early this month, too late to sow gherkin, cucumber canteloupes, &c. for pickles. They may come in ample time, before frost. A word as to *pickling* what you may have over, or what you have for market late in the autumn. Secure a clean, new (is best) cask, or an old whiskey, rum, or molasses barrel. Let it be clean and sweet. Put at the bottom a layer of fine salt, then a layer of pickles, laid smooth, close and straight. Give a light sprinkle of salt, then another layer of pickling material, and sprinkle of salt, until the vessel is full. They will make brine enough themselves, if not add a little water. It

is best to keep each sort in separate tubs or vessels. Cucumbers and martynias should be gathered when small, the first, say from 2 to 5 inches long. All pickling should be gathered when the dew is on, and wiped clean if any dirt attaches. If so dirty as to require washing dry them, or drain in a cool, shady place, before putting them in the salt. *Cut* all pickles with a stem of half an inch attached. Use scissors or a sharp knife. Canteloupes can be cut when small, and used as the above. If large, they are intended for mangoes, and can be cut open and the inside taken out, leaving the piece cut out to be replaced loosely and tied with a string, so as to admit the brine inside. Peppers should also be slit and scraped inside. They may be full grown or nearly so, before put in brine.

Nasturtium requires only gathering and dropping in wide mouth jars, filled with vinegar, prepared by boiling with salt, white pepper, and a little mace and a few strips of horse radish. This jar of prepared vinegar is always ready, for the matron or daughter to put in the nasturtiums as gathered; when the bottle is full, seal up, and next winter they will be better for boiled mutton or cold meat than the costly exotic called "capers."

*Beans and Peas.*—It is not too late to sow these for fall use.

*Celery.*—If you have not done so, plant celery as soon as you can; shade the plants until well rooted, and keep the ground moist by copious watering until a good rain comes. Weak brine poured on the side of the plants, not on them, is a stimulating fertilizer much relished by this superb plant. Liquid stable manure used in the same way, is excellent by way of encouraging the growth of the wholesome, delicious celery. Its medicinal qualities render this very popular vegetable indispensable to good living from October to April.

*Onions.*—Sow onion seed thick on thin land, around a tree or trees, for sets next spring. You can take them up after frost, or sprinkle straw over them, with a little brush to keep it down, and let them stand out all winter.

*Radishes.*—Sow radishes at intervals on a rich border; water well every day or so. The Chinese pink or white are the best to sow now. The large turnip-white radish and black Spanish are also good for sowing in August.

*Early York or Wakefield Cabbage.*—Sow seed for autumn planting.

*Asparagus Beds.*—Cut down the asparagus, clear the beds of weeds and grass, fork in rich

stable manure, and make the whole surface white with salt. This vegetable is too old and too much liked by everybody, not to have an ample supply during the spring season.

*Orchard.*—Search your orchard, especially young trees, and where insects of any sort seem to be dapple with a mop saturated in oil of some sort. Oils are death to vile insects. Then paint the bodies with a mixture of soft soap, salt, sulphur and ashes, reduced by water to the thinness of whitewash. Apply the mixture with a whitewash brush. The proportions of the mixture may be equal parts of soap, salt, ashes and a quarter of a pound of sulphur to a gallon of the mixture after being diluted. It should be, when applied, much thicker than ordinary whitewash, and put on in dry weather.

### Educational Influences of the Farm.

Prof. W. H. Brewer, of Sheffield Scientific School, New Haven, in one of his happiest and best efforts, before the Connecticut State Board of Agriculture, at Waterbury, Dec. 20, 1883, among many other noteworthy remarks, said as follows:

"Men who were educated, or have lived on farms have had the leading parts in building up the American nation, and in making it what it is. Of twenty one presidents fifteen have been farmers, or were the sons of farmers, and five lived on new or pioneer farms, and the latter have been the most prominent among the presidents.

\* \* \* \* \*

"The dangers to a republican government come not from the country, but from the cities. It will be better for our nation to have as large a portion as possible of the people own the land they live on. In ownership of land lies the safety of the government.

"There is no place so good in which to educate a child as on a moderate size farm. Education has made great advances within the past few years, and chiefly in the direction of science, the increase of wealth and the lengthening of human life, and this is largely due to the work-shop or laboratory method of teaching. Men learn in this way what they could learn in no other way. They learn to handle the things they study, and they come to ask questions and seek out the answers. They thus acquire methods of inquiry that go with them in


after life, and keep them constantly studying and learning. The farm is always a laboratory, and on it the child early learns to work and to observe. I was a man, said the professor, before I learned that there are children in this country old enough to attend school who have never seen the sun rise, who never saw the common domestic animals of the farm, except in pictures. When I first learned this, it burst upon me like a revelation. It explained to me why teachers have so much difficulty in teaching many things to children, especially city children, for much they try to teach they can no more understand without seeing the things themselves, than they can understand Greek.

"On the farm the child very early learns that he can do something that is useful, that somebody else will have to do if he does not. So he is early identified with the workers. One of the most useful things he learns is, that what he does is done for results that are not immediate, but will come in the future. He sees the seed corn put in the earth, sees it grow in spring and summer, sees the care required in its cultivation, the weeds to be pulled and destroyed, and he learns to wait for results. He sees that a large part of the work done on the farm is done for the future; the cutting of next year's supply of wood while that of last year is being burned; sees fences and buildings built, drains dug, and fields cleared for future use and future profits, and he learns the meaning of self-sacrifice to day with results coming far ahead. He sees an element of forethought in everything, and success in the future depends upon good work and care now. Scarcely anything he uses he has not waited for. The city child has none of this kind of education. He sees the butcher, the baker, and the grocer bring each day the daily food for the table, and he sees nothing beyond. It comes to him like manna without effort, and without forethought.

"But he hears a great deal about what he cannot have, because there is not money enough to buy it. It is for no lack of care or forethought that he must deny himself the things he wants, but it is the lack of money, and when he gets money he sees a great many ways for spending it. He doesn't learn about the growth of things, and gets no correct ideas concerning interest, or what interest means. But the coun-

try boy sees his calf growing from a thing of little value to a thing of greater value. So the country boy is educated to thrift.

"There is all the time something to be done on the farm that he can do, and he thus early comes to feel a proprietorship in the farm and home. But what can one give a city child to do, we who have a backyard no bigger than this platform. I begin to fear that children are coming to be not wanted in the city. The poor children of the cities don't get homes found for them in the city, but in the country, and I know that many country people take children from the cities into their families to bring up and educate, from stock a great deal poorer than they would be willing to select their animals from. The benevolent associations in their reports are always congratulating themselves on having placed so many poor children in good homes in rural districts, never in city families. A bad or a weak child may be educated on a farm, when it would be impossible to educate him in the city. The speaker had not much faith in what some style "farming on business principles." He did not believe that farming can be so reduced to a business basis that as great fortunes can be made at it as in trade. The farmers who have made a million in their business can be counted on the fingers of a badly mutilated hand, and it must be so always, for it is pretty hard work to make a million dollars in doing unto others as you would have others do unto you. The bright side of farming in America is that large and small farmers are more nearly on the same level than elsewhere, and although few become very rich, nearly all pay 100 cents for every dollar they owe. In Massachusetts, where farming is despised more than anywhere else in the world, statistics show that farmers live longer than any other class that perform an equal amount of labor. The farmer's care of cattle teaches him how to preserve his own health. The strength of a people is in those classes that are most abundant, the workers. When a nation gets to be too much city it loses physical strength and power. The country cultivates individuality."

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### Dr. Loring's Work.

Under this title the Washington correspondent of the *Boston Post*, after a flattering comparison between the work of Dr. Loring, as Agricultural Commissioner, and that of his three immediate predecessors, he reviews what the department has done and eulogises the efforts of the present commissioner in his continuously able designs to foster the progress of American agriculture, regardless of any results personal to himself, he goes on to say:—

"There is no head of a department or bureau who can do so much with congress as Dr. Loring. He has conducted the business entrusted to him in a way that has satisfied every public man who has any transactions with him. For the first time since its organization, the agricultural department is on a satisfactory footing. Those who are most interested in its works believe that the business of the farmer is being helped by the government. The crop statistics are, for the first time, most trustworthy and the fullest that are gathered. Whether all this is proper government work is one thing; it is made government work by act of Congress, and has to be done by some one. Dr. Loring is the first commissioner who has done it thoroughly well.

"The agitation about a cabinet office has gone on without Dr. Loring's assistance. He has only asked for enough money to conduct his department, and this the house of representatives has just given him without a dissenting vote. His is the only appropriation bill that has gone through unanimously, and he and Prof. Baird are about the only two government officers who can secure whatever money they need without question.

"Dr. Loring seems to be doing nothing in politics, notwithstanding the urgent demand that he take part in the opening campaign in the Western States, where he is extremely popular. The statement so often and so industriously made that he is seeking congressional honors in the district he once represented with much ability, is evidently without the slightest foundation, and the attempt to drag him into a controversy over the patronage of the district has signally failed. He has in some instances,

by request, that the re-appointment of worthy officials would be an act of justice and entirely in accordance with the civil service policy professed by the republican party, but he has left it for others to raise personal issues in the district on the question of political patronage. It is evident to those who watch his career that Dr. Loring is content to devote himself to the management of the affairs of his own department, that he is ambitious to make it influential and useful and respected, and that he looks upon the political status of the department as a matter of secondary importance."

[In all the above we fully concur, but go further in stating it as our conviction, that the interest of the farming community—which is admitted to be the foundation stone on which rests the solidity and wealth and actual subsistence of every republic or free government—will never be properly served and honored until it be placed on a footing with the war, navy, and commercial representatives in the cabinet. Why should not this, overwhelming any other branch of the government, be properly represented at the council board of the ruler of the United States? The very source of all the greatness and power of the United States is unrepresented in the ministerial cabinet of the president, and also but poorly in the two houses of congress, through the supineness, we must admit, *alone* of the sons of toil.—EDS. MD. FAR.]

#### Consumption Cured.

An old physician retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 149 Power's Block, Rochester, N.Y.—\*

#### What you and I may have to pay for.

For the vicious acts of unruly domestic animals, like kicking, hooking or biting, the owner is generally liable. If a man owns an ugly beast, it is his duty to prevent it from doing injury, both on his own premises and everywhere else, so that people may not suffer from its dangerous disposition. He must use due care to prevent any harm resulting from its evil propensity, and his liability will depend upon some negligence on his part, some failure of his duty to exercise due care. Of course if he does not know that the beast is dangerous, he cannot be expected or required to take extra precautions; if he has not had what in law amounts to notice of the evil disposition, he cannot be held liable for not guarding against it. Consequently, where a horse or an ox suddenly, and without any previous exhibition of bad temper, does a vicious act, like kicking or hooking a bystander, its owner is not, and in reason should not be, held liable. As to what amounts to notice of a vicious temper, the rule is that it should be sufficient to put a prudent man on his guard. It is not necessary that the animal should have already done harmful and vicious acts; if it has manifested a disposition to do such things, that it is sufficient to notify the owner of danger (25 Conn., 92).

It is no defense to a vicious injury by a domestic animal, that it was committed on the owner's own premises, and that the person injured was at the time a trespasser (17 Wend., 496). A man cannot defend his premises by such means as a ferocious beast, any more than by setting man-traps, or spring-guns (37 Iowa, 613). So, therefore, if the farmer keeps a savage dog, allows him to go unrestrained about the farm, and he attacks and injures a person who is casually crossing the land, the farmer will be liable, nay more, if the person be at the time a trespasser, hunting in the farmer's woods on Sunday, the farmer will have to pay for his lacerated legs, although he did not set on the dog (17 Wend., 497). Likewise, if the farmer has an ugly and ferocious bull, which he allows to traverse through his fields, and the animal pitches upon strolling fishermen, trespassers though they be, the farmer will have to pay for their broken ribs, or broken necks. as the case may be (3 C. & P., 138; 124 Mass.,

49). One may doubtless defend his house against burglars by a savage dog, but if it bites and injures any one coming to the house on any innocent purpose, he will have to pay for the damages (41 Cal., 138). Some sort of negligence, however, on the part of the owner of the unruly beast, is necessary to create a liability. If one's horse breaks loose from him and runs away in the street, and there injures some one, or smashes a carriage, he is not liable merely because the horse got away. Some negligence must be shown, as that he left the horse unhitched, or his harness or wagon was known by him to be out of order, or unroadworthy, etc. (3 Allen, 565).—H. A. HAIGH, in *American Agriculturist* for July.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### Marketing the Crops.

Much of the farmer's profits lies in his ability to get his crops on the market in good shape and at the right time. It may seem to some to be a trifling matter that any time should be spent in making articles for market more attractive than they usually are, but it pays. Good fruit, for instance, honestly put up will always find a market where the opposite would find none. It is told of the eminent fruit culturist, Mr. P. T. Quinn, that when he first began to ship fruit to market, he was careless in putting it up. A commission dealer re-packed for for him a barrel of pears which were soon sold to a customer who came along for \$12, whereas \$6 could not be got for the same fruit as put up by Mr. Quinn. The point is, a quantity of fruit is judged by the poorest specimens rather than the best; the poorer bringing the better to its level.

When to sell, is also important. In order to know about this, one needs to keep the run of the markets. Better take a fair price, perhaps in your way of thinking a low one, for your wheat or your corn, rather than store it in bins subject to waste by vermin. Remember also, the interest of the money goes to waste with the grain. And in his favor he has but the poor chances of a fluctuating market, and even then, unless he is very watchful and keeps posted, he is quite as likely to lose as to gain.

J. W. DARROW.

Chatham, N. Y.

### Agriculture Booming!

A contemporary speaking of the coming Fair of the State Agricultural Society, of Pennsylvania, in September, at Philadelphia, makes the following statement, which is surprising and at same time encouraging to the farmer, as it shows how popular his calling has become, when an exhibition is provided for, upon such extensive and costly plans. "The buildings for the Pennsylvania Agricultural Fair, to be held in Philadelphia in September, will cost \$75,000, and the premiums offered to exhibitors aggregate \$50,000. The main building will be 150 by 300 feet, and the other buildings will include a poultry house, agricultural hall, floral hall, restaurant and smaller buildings for various purposes. Stalls for 750 head of cattle are already under cover." The site is on a tract of thirty acres, at the junction of the Pennsylvania and Reading railroads, affording transportation for exhibits and passengers from all sections of the State and City."

### More about Silos.

The *Mark Lane Express*, of London, in congratulating its readers upon the fact of Prof. John B. Lawe's announcement that he is going to build a silo says: "If Sir John thinks the question is merely one of silage *vs.* roots from a feeding value point of view, he is greatly mistaken. It is a case of silage *vs.* moldy hay and wheat, which nobody wants; of cheap and heavy land deteriorating crops, and of stock keeping *vs.* corn growing." This is not only a wise statement of the case for England, where root crops are the mainstay of cattle feeders, but it is particularly applicable to American farmers, who cannot as a rule, afford to grow roots, owing to the great cost for labor in working them. As much as we have traveled among the commercial dairymen of the country, and noted their methods of farming, we do not remember a single instance of root growing, except with turnips, which are a kind of "catch crop," that fails as often as it succeeds. Breeders of fine cattle raise mangolds and carrots, and usually have a number of extra hands to weed them, but the plain farmer seldom has the time with his short supply of help, to devote to this laborious crop,—*American Dairyman*.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### Saving Straw.

If the reader suggests that this is a threadbare theme, I would point to the straw continually wasting upon ninety per cent. of the farms in this country as proof that it should not be a dead one.

Very little straw is hauled out and burned at threshing time in the East, but this is often done in the West. However, I wish to speak more particularly of those cases in which a show of saving the straw is made, but in which the efforts fail sadly to accomplish the desired result.

Straw may be saved for either manure alone, or for feed and manure together. In the latter case it must be stacked; and piling it up in a shapeless mass, that settles till it is the lowest in the middle, as is commonly the case, is not stacking it. On the straw stack is considered the hardest place about a threshing machine and as a result the stout, able-bodied men appropriate to themselves the other positions and the boys are compelled to work upon the stack. If hands are short about the machine, the supply will be certain to be limited upon the stack; every other position will be well supplied. The boys cannot stack the straw properly, let them try ever so hard, for they have neither the strength nor the knowledge to dispose of it properly. Their only effort is to keep it out of the way of the machine. They get in a row along the middle of the stack, and as the work progresses, each stands in a constantly deepening hole. When this becomes so deep as to interfere with work, a bunch of straw is put under their feet, and the farce of stacking the straw is proceeded with. It is not the fault of the boys but of the man whose grain is being threshed, for he allows such a state of affairs to exist.

It pays to stack well straw designed for feed. It has been demonstrated that for practical feeding purposes a ton of oats straw is equal to two thirds of a ton of hay in like condition. Wheat straw would have about the same value of oats straw were it as palatable to stock. It requires very little more labor indeed to stack a ton of straw than to pile it up to spoil as is commonly done; and every ton stacked to save is worth from six to twelve dollars.

When you come to thresh your own grain this year, assign the men to their

places about the machine, and see to it that the best hands are put upon the stack. Appoint two stackers; if possible to do so, appoint yourself one of them. Remember that the secrets of good straw stacking are a narrow foundation, little effort to bulge the stock, and a full middle. Straw is a slippery commodity, and if you start the stack more than nine feet wide or attempt to bulge it to any great extent, the constant and almost imperceptible slipping will make the stack so wide that to bring it to a point it will be necessary to draw it in so fast that it will take water. The middle must be kept high, for as the most weight is upon it, it will settle the most; and if the stack is level while building, the middle will be the lowest when it is settled, and the stack will take water.

Straw fed to farm animals may also be saved for manure in the shape of the voidings of these animals. These voidings will be deposited in the stock yard, for the straw will be fed there. For this reason the stock-yard should be upon level ground. If upon a hillside the rains will leach the the best part out of the manure, and you can not afford to fertilize the ocean. Straw may be saved for manure alone. Then the object is to convert it into manure as rapidly as possible, and the poorer it is stacked the better. But in this case, as in the other the yard should be upon level ground, that the rains may not leach the manure. It is not saving straw for manure to stack it upon inclining ground.

Stack the straw on level ground always. And if you design to feed it, see that it is *stacked*, not piled up to mould and rot.

JOHN M. STAHL.

THE NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will hold its 21st annual exhibition in connection with that of the New Hampshire State Society, at Manchester, N. H., Sept. 1 to 5 inclusive.

WISELY ADOPTED BY DAIRYMEN.—The adoption by most of the prominent dairymen and farmers of the United States, of the Improved Butter Color, made by Wells, Richardson & Co. Burlington, Vt., is a proof of their wisdom in a business-point of view. Nearly all winter butter is colored in order to make it marketable, and this color is the best, in regard to purity, strength, permanence and perfection of tint.

### A Convenient Pasture.

A pasture close to the farm buildings is a great convenience, and will save much valuable time during the busy season. The work horses may be turned into such a pasture in the evening after they have eaten their ration of hay and grain. It is an easy matter to bring the horses in again in the morning for their feed, before it is time for work. The cows may go to the back feeding ground for the day, and into the front pasture to pass the night. Boys who are tired from hard work through the day, appreciate the convenience of a pasture close by the milking ground. The cows are more contented if kept near the barns at night. The gates and other entrances to this night pasture should be arranged to save all possible steps, both from the horse stable and the milking yard. Some may object to having horses and cows in the same field, but the writer has concluded, after several years' experience, that there is no danger with any ordinary animals. Young stock of all kinds will be safer if kept from the old in a separate pasture.

This convenient night pasture should be permanent, and furnish good feeding to the horses and cows throughout the whole season. It therefore needs to be kept in good heart. If naturally rich, the droppings from the animals will keep up the fertility for several years. A man with a manure pick or mallet, should go over the pasture each spring, and loosen and scatter the droppings. The mallet consists of a block of wood a foot long, square at one end and pointed at the other, into which a stout handle is fastened near the middle.

A top-dressing of well-rotted manure should be given every two or three years, or still better, a light dressing each winter. A hundred pounds of nitrate of soda per acre in early spring, aids greatly in giving a vigorous start to the young grass. If course weeds appear, they should be rooted out before they become thoroughly established or ripen any seed. A flowing spring in a central location, is of great value in any pasture, and especially here where cows may drink after being milked, and again early in the morning. It will also save much labor in watering the horses

before and after work. If a flowing spring cannot be found, the next best water supply is a well with a wind-mill pump.

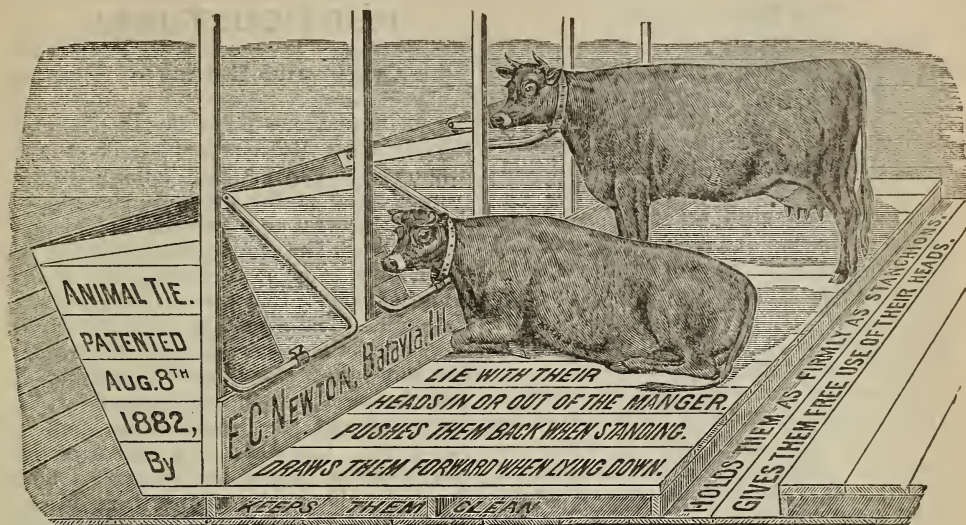
A pasture properly manured, kept free from weeds, and thickly seeded with a large variety of grasses, may be as permanent and profitable as any field on the farm. The night pasture does not enter into the regular rotation adopted for the other fields.—DR. B. D. HALSTED, in *American Agriculturist* for May.

### Pure Drinking Water.

This matter of pure water to drink, is vital, *vital*, VITAL to the well-being of farmers. It may be all very well for the good of the race, for the puny, delicate, "peaked" children to die; but these are the ones that the mothers, at least, love best, and there is a vast deal of rending of hearts over the sickness and death of the delicate ones, young or old, which might at least, be postponed for many years, if they and we had pure water to drink. Wells, near barnyards, or within two or three hundred feet of them, sometimes contain the germs of disease and death. The old-fashioned privy vault, fifty times more dangerous, is usually nearer the house and the well, and contrived, as if by the "arch-enemy," as an unfailing source of malarial poison, of diphtheria, typhus and typhoid fevers, and the evils that follow in their train. There ought to be State laws forbidding the existence of the privy vaults, or even of cess-pools, except perhaps, cemented cisterns, through which a regular flow of water is maintained.

No system was ever devised equal to the Mosaic, (Deut. xxiii; 12, 13 and 14,) but that is particularly adapted to a Nomadic people, although I have met with it in Louisiana and Kentucky, and know it is the rule in Texas, where the abomination alluded to has never existed, except to a very limited degree.—Col. Weld, in *American Agriculturist* for July.

HEALTH IS WEALTH—It is worth more than riches, for without riches cannot be enjoyed. How many people are without health, who might regain it by using Kidney Wort. It acts upon the Liver, Bowels and Kidneys, cleansing and stimulating them to healthy action. It cures all disorders of these important organs, purifies the blood and promotes the general health. Sold by all druggists. See advt.



#### Newton's Improved Animal Tie.

For the Maryland Farmer.

We present to our readers, an illustration of this celebrated tie, which has become quite popular, and said to have gained quite an extensive sale in a short time. It is made of wood, and bent the shape of a bail, and provided with a swivel, that is fastened in the centre of two iron pins and made, so one part twines with the strap or chain, and the other part revolves around the wooden tie, making it impossible to get twisted. It gives the animal perfect freedom with their heads, that they can reach any part of their body. Pushes them back when standing; draws them forward when lying down, thus keeping them perfectly clean, an arrangement which seems to be very desirable. Orders sent to the Maryland Farmer Office will receive our prompt attention.

DON'T FAIL to call and examine the **Rawson Mower**, on exhibition at the "Maryland Farmer" Office.

MEN of all ages who suffer from low spirits nervous debility and premature decay, may have life, health and vigor renewed by the use of the Marston Bolus treatment, without stomach medication. Consultation free. Send for descriptive treatise MARSTON REMEDY Co. 46 West 14th Street, N. Y.

#### Summer Frosts.

It may seem strange to people in your latitude that frost should come at this time of the year, (May 30th), but it has been not merely a frost but a *scorching* one. Columbia county, in eastern New York, where your correspondent lives, has been robbed of all kinds of fruit, its growing corn and potatoes cut down, its rye fields some what injured, and the foliage of many forest trees is black and falling to the ground.

The frost occurred May 30th. The thermometer marked below the freezing point, and ice, in favorable localities, was formed a quarter of an inch in thickness. Grapes were all destroyed and it is feared the vines are permanently injured.

The apple crop will be a total failure, excepting possibly the Northern Spy which is a little later in setting fruit. The young fruit when cut open reveals a dark spot within, and the apples are falling off. A neighbor expected to have had five tons of cherries, the same of currants, 2,000 barrels of apples and 5,000 quarts of raspberries, but scarcely none will be saved. It is a severe situation, indeed, but seed time and harvest never fails entirely. J. W. D. Chatham, N. Y.

CLEANING HOUSE.—How to do it by kalsomine and paint, fully described in "Everybody's Paint Book," a new work just issued. See description in another column

### The Value of Clover.

Clover as a manure acts in several ways. As a shade it imparts nitrogen to the soil, and when a crop of it is turned under besides the fertilizing elements it has a mechanical effect. This does more than make the land work easily; it enables the roots of other plants to penetrate the soil, and find food which they otherwise would be unable to reach. It furnishes humus which has other value in the soil besides supplying plant food; its dark color making the soil warmer. It also gives the soil greater power of retaining water and of absorbing moisture and ammonia from the air.

Clover not only produces an abundant growth of great manurial value above the surface, but also one of still greater value beneath. The large fleshy roots of the clover, as they decay in the soil, yield both humus and ammonia. The roots of the clover run deep, pores are created for imbibing a greater quantity of atmospheric elements of growth, and bringing up mineral matter from below; the advantages arising from this process are not to be disregarded by the farmer."—T. D. B., in the *Prairie Farmer*.

### Pennsylvania State and County Fairs for 1884.

Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society, will hold its annual fair at Philadelphia, September 8 to 20th, inclusive. D. W. Seiler, Harrisburg, Secretary.

Tri-State exhibition and pic-nic, William's Grove, Sep. 20—30, R. H. Thomas, Mechanicsburg, Manager.

Berk's County Agricultural Society, Reading, Sep. 23—26, C. T. Fox, Secretary.

Adam's County Agricultural Society, Gettysburg, Sep. 22—25, M. Huber, Gettysburg, Secretary.

Doylestown Agricultural and Mechanical Society, Doylestown, Sep. 30 to Oct. 3, J. W. Case, Doylestown, Secretary.

Lackawanna County Fair, Scranton, Sep. 30 to Oct. 3, H. H. Jacobs, Scranton, Secretary.

Lancaster County Company, Lancaster, Sep. 1—6, Jacob B. Long, Secretary.

Lebanon Valley, Lebanon, Sep. 30 to Oct. 3, C. R. Lantz, Lebanon, Secretary.

Northampton Farmers' and Mechanics' Institute, Easton, Sep. 23—26, W. G. Field, Secreataay.

York County, York, October 7—10, E. Chapin, Secretary.

## HORTICULTURAL.

### The Origin and Botany of Plants.

"At the last meeting of the Horticultural Society, Prof. Meehan in his talk on the origin and botany of plants, adhered to the plan adopted at the previous meeting, of giving a general re-view of all plants on exhibition. The Judas tree received its name from popular tradition, that Judas hung himself on that tree; it comes from Palestine. The legend in connection with it, was, that the flower was originally white, but, after Judas hung himself it became red. The double cherry blossom grows all over the world, and goes wherever the human race goes. The Alder is a native of the Northeastern States and Canada. The *Staphylea Dumalda*, comes from Asia; Sweet *Alyssum* comes from the Mediterranean Sea, and is one of the very few plants that has never been known to change its name, color or character of its growth. *Geraniums* come from Africa, and *Lobelia* from Peru and South America. The artillery plant is one of the most curious, and is so named on account of the manner in which the flowers expand. The flowers in bursting, sometimes scatter the pollen two and three feet. The wall flower is found in the Old World, growing in old mortared walls and castle-buildings. The *Abutilon* is somewhat of the nature of the cotton plant, and comes from Mexico. The *Cactus* is a native of America, but has been naturalized and is now found growing wild in Italy. In speaking of the bloom of the *Cactus*, he said, there was something unknown, why some prefer to open at night and others in the daytime. No scientific man has yet been able to tell why it is. Some open at 9 o'clock, others at 10; some at 2, and others again only at night. Their numbers increase as we go towards the South, where the climate is dry and hot. While two-thirds of the *Cactus* is found to be composed of lime, it is often found growing in sections where lime is unknown. Land tortoises are found in great abundance where the *Cactus* grows wild. They bore into the trunk of the tree, and supply their pouches with water, and in this way are enabled to live a long time on the desert, supplying their wants while traveling from the pouch. The cochineal insects of commerce are a product of the *Cactus* tree.

HOME DECORATIONS.—Ladies can learn how to make those beautiful spatter-work pictures, by consulting "Everybody's Paint Book," the latest and best work on painting. See description in our advertising columns.

They are perfectly white before they feed on the Cactus, which turns them a bright red color. Fuchsias come from the old continent; and a species of broom, bearing a beautiful yellow flower, comes from the Canary Islands. The general impression is, that life originated in Asia, and we are also told, that all forms of animated nature had its origin in that part of the globe, and have wandered and been scattered over the entire world. The vegetation, that formerly existed in this part of the world, we are told, was totally different from the vegetation of to-day. Many plants, growing wild here to day, have followed the white man from Europe. The reason some plants are so numerous, is, because they are distasteful to animals and grow undisturbed. The Buttercup and Ox eyed daisy are plants of this class. The Cat-tail seed is carried by birds, and if a pond of water is left undisturbed some two or three years, we almost invariably find some growing there, the seed doubtless being carried by some winged sower. The speaker, had a very interesting talk on wild flowers, explaining their nature, growth and general characteristics. All over the United States the Calla Lily has of late been producing an extra leaf. What is the cause, is unexplainable, and seems almost incomprehensible. Probably we have a new species of this plant, and these illustrations give color to that idea. Rhubarb is a native of Turkey, and is in great demand for medicinal purposes. It was generally supposed that the common rhubarb of this country, was the same species as the medicinal rhubarb, but such is not the case. While in Alaska, the speaker said he found the medicinal rhubarb. We find a great deal of oxalic acid in the make-up of this plant. Chemists tell us, enough of this poison can be extracted from two stalks of rhubarb, to poison a person, but the antidote is also in the plant, which prevents injurious effect."

FINE GOOSEBERRIES:—Mr. P. Hallock, brought us some fine specimens of this fruit from Frederick City, grown by Mrs. A. C. Freshour. They are of an imported variety, some of the largest measured 3½ inches in circumference, and free from mil-dew.

### The Horse Chestnut.

A correspondent sends us the following from the *West Chester Local News*, and asks our opinion:

"The extract of horse-chestnut taken internally and in sufficient quantity, produces on the healthy organism, all or either of the fearful catalogue of diseases that human nature is subject to. I have proven, and am most deeply convicted, that the same effect is produced by inhaling the damp air from the tree, which, being brought in direct contact with the blood, through the lungs, produces one of the most terrible kinds of blood-poison. The great peculiarity of this is, that, as the system takes it in, it stealthily closes the pores, as well as every other avenue of human life. It then brings forth and develops the various forms of indigestion, rheumatism, heart disease, Bright's disease, lung and nervous affections in all their varied forms, according to the temperament and conditions of its victim. And now, if I could but awaken the people to the importance of cutting down and removing so dangerous a plant, my end will be accomplished. West Chester can easily spare the shade, for there are far too many trees for the health of the inhabitants."

"The greatest nuisances in the world are the average health reformers, that happen to get the free run of a local newspaper. To read what they say, it is a wonder any human being lives over twenty-four hours, after reading what they tell us of the dangers we run. No doubt a poison can be extracted from a horse-chestnut tree. We can probably get oxalic acid enough from half a dozen stalks of rhubarb to kill a man, yet one may eat half a dozen stalks in a pie and thrive on it. Probably a few dozen peach kernels will give more Prussic acid, than any of us would care to take, but we have known lots of them put in cookery without harm. Even the deadly Upas tree has lost its terrors for those who have got acquainted with it; and we fancy that when our Bright's diseased correspondent of West Chester, gets to know the horse-chestnut tree better, he will look to whiskey or some other indulgent friend for the true cause of his imperfections."—*Gardener's Monthly*.

[We perfectly agree with Mr. Meehan,

in his stern denunciation of all this pretended learning. If men were fools, and believed all that these would-be-philosophic searchers after truth, pretend to have discovered, life would become burthensome, and *nothing* could be found but what was deleterious to human life and comfort. It is all bosh, and we sometimes print such wild notions, that fools may have straws to tickle themselves with.—EDS. MD. FAR.]

#### Liquid Manure.

Any sort of manure infused in water, which is then poured over the soil, containing the roots of the plants to be fed, constitutes liquid manuring. Nature manures similarly with the water of rain, which, falling on the surface, dissolves a small portion of whatever plant-food may be there, and carries it to the roots. It will be seen that there is a great advantage in the slow solubility of the surface plant-food; wet seasons dissolve it faster than plants consume it, and it wastes, so that after wet seasons, we usually have reduced crops, and good ones after dry seasons; (with water) in dry countries. Liquid manuring is largely used in pot culture of plants and fruits. As in feeding animals, moderation and dilution are advisable. It is a means of supplying at any moment, and in any degree, what nature feeds irregularly, and often slowly. With it, pure sand alone, is a sufficient and excellent soil.—*New York Tribune*.

**MULCHING POTATOES.**—The experiments conducted during the last session at the Missouri State Agricultural College fully demonstrate, says the Rural World, the advisability of mulching potatoes. We believe every experiment so far reported gave a similar result. The cost of the materials for mulching is usually very small, leaves or straw being plentiful and cheap upon the farm. The materials, manure the ground, and mulching saves hoeing. The potato requires a cooler climate and moister soil than our latitude affords. Mulching tends to secure both. The result in every case has been largely increased yields of superior quality.

#### Lime for Orchards.

The ash of the apple tree contains seventy-one per cent. lime. That of the pear and peach, nearly as much. This fact, taken with another, viz: that it is rarely thought necessary, and still more rarely practiced, to apply lime as a fertilizer to fruit trees, will be quite sufficient to account for the wretchedly miserable appearance of many old orchards, as well as to explain why orchards that are planted upon lands rich in lime, are so thrifty and bear such handsome fruit. If we should follow reason and analogy, in respect to the management of orchards, we should apply lime every third or fourth year with liberality. Good farmers dress their fields once in five years with fifty bushels of lime per acre, as an encouragement of the clover. Why, then, should we not as profusely lime our orchards, which require so much of this element, when clover, which contains less than half as much, is so liberally treated? *New York Times*.

#### The Strawberry Leaf Roller.

It is fully described in the report of Prof. Forbes, Illinois State entomologist. He says "The larvæ measures, when full grown 0.35 of an inch. Largest on the first segment, tapering thence very slightly to the last. Color, varying from very light yellowish brown to dark olive green or brown, etc." Its work upon the leaves is thus described: "The larvæ begins by forming a web upon the upper surface of the leaf, by means of which, in some unexplained way, they double the two halves of the leaf together so that the insects themselves are concealed in the fold. Here they eat away the surface of the leaf so that it withers and turns brown. It is not an uncommon thing for them to destroy the field completely, so that scarcely a single green leaf will be apparent. They not only ruin a crop, but kill most of the plants outright.

#### REMEDIES.

No insecticides as yet tried have proved effectual in destroying them. The best results have been obtained by mowing the vines as close to the ground as possible immediately after fruiting, and burning them, adding straw, if necessary, to secure a strong combustion. This has been tried at Normal, Ill., with complete success. The plants were not injured in the least, but sent up a new and strong growth.—*Farmers' Review*.

**Layering Shrubs.**

It is often a matter of surprise to us to see that so few persons, especially those residing in the country at a distance from nurseries, undertake to increase their stock of shrubbery, by layering the branches, almost every variety of shrub can be thus multiplied. Even with those who practice this method, the queen of flowers, the Rose, can be thus treated and increased to any desirable extent, though it is seldom pursued. It is usually propagated by sticking cuttings from the new wood of the same year in August, and nursing carefully through the winter—that is to say, to protect it lightly from the extreme severity of the weather, but see that it is not killed or smothered with kindness. But, by *layering the growing branches*, on the other hand, it becomes by the succeeding season a bloomer. And this, too, can be done easily—that is, without the use of a sash, or hot-bed, usually adopted with the cutting. In laying down take a sharp knife, and slit the part of the branch that enters the ground, from one joint to another, then cover with two inches of soil, press rather firmly, and fasten with a forked stick. Not only roses, but almost every kind of shrub can be thus propagated. And the person who, after the simple words we here use, cannot do thin, deserves to go without flowering shrubs all the days of his life!—*German-town Telegraph*.

**Longevity of Trees.**

A table recently given by the *Revue de l'Horticulture Belge*, as to the age of trees, when their timber is of the most value, gives us also an idea of the different periods at which trees mature, in the Old World and in this. Black Walnut, 250 to 300 years; Royal Oak, 250; Quercus Alba—we suppose the American White Oak, grown in Europe, is intended—200; European Sweet Chestnut, 200; American Chestnut, 180; European Linden, 125; Broad leaved or Dutch Linden, 90 to 100; European Beech, 90 to 95; Scotch Pine, 90; Norway Spruce, 95; White Willow, 40; Sycamore Maple, 50; Alder, Cherry, Poplar, &c., 50 to 60. We believe those marked in the list over 100, would not be worth much in this country after that time,  
—Ed. of G. M.,

**Raising Radishes.**

The following is my method of raising radishes, and which I find to be the best way. I know that most of my neighbors have much difficulty in getting good radishes, and formerly I also did; they were tough, stringy and wormy, utterly unfit to eat. Now I never fail to get them sound and crisp. Radishes require to be grown quickly in order to have them tender. I select a piece of ground in a corner of the garden for this crop, and keep it specially for that purpose. I use unleached wood ashes, putting them on the ground two or more inches in depth, and dig them well under to thoroughly mix them with the soil, which is sandy, when it is thoroughly worked I sow the seed, first marking rows with the back of a rake, from sixteen to eighteen inches apart. After sowing, the seed is covered with the teeth of the rake. I add ashes to the bed every year, and find that it keeps them free from the worms. No manure is required; splendid radishes are raised in this way. I never knew this process of raising radishes to be recommended and you are at liberty to publish it.—F. C., in *Vick's Monthly*.

**Evergreen Hedges for Shelter.**

Some people seem to consider it as an affront to the climate of a country, when anything is said about protection or shelter to plants or animals. If mankind were always contented to grow only such crops and rear such animals, as are natives to the climate, special protective care might be unnecessary; but if collect the productions of other countries, we can only make them profitable by maintaining their health, and unless this is accomplished, failures will result.

The past winter shows, and, indeed every winter shows, the value of protection from severe colds. If we take the trouble to compare results and observations, we will find that protection from evergreen trees and hedges, enables certain plants to withstand the cold; or, rather, it preserves them from injury, by meliorating the cold, while plants of the same kind unprotected, will be destroyed.

The best plants to employ for protection from cold will vary somewhat, according to climate. For evergreen hedges in the Southern States, even as far as Florida, we

consider that the Chinese arborvitæ is the most suitable. It can be kept in fine shape with but little trouble, as a garden shelter, or it may be allowed to grow up twenty feet in height for sheltering broader areas. Its American cousin, the native arborvitæ, is hardier, and will grow best where the Chinese would be killed by cold. When grown south of New York, it assumes a brown color towards winter, but it is a very suitable plant for hedges, either dwarf or tall.

For a very large portion of the Eastern and Middle States, there is no evergreen tree that will give better satisfaction, as a protective plant than the Norway spruce. A line of these, placed six feet apart, surrounding a house from northwest to northeast, will, in a few years, form a valuable wind-break, and save fuel of all kinds. This plant grows too coarsely for making a neat hedge. Among all of our evergreen trees, the Hemlock spruce makes the finest dwarf hedge; indeed, we know of no evergreen, either native or introduced, that is superior to the Hemlock for forming a neat, ornamental hedge; or, for thick planting for purposes of local shelter.—*Exchange.*

**CABBAGE WORMS.**—At the New York experiment station, various remedies recommended for destroying these insects were tested. The most satisfactory of any used, was one made of a mixture of one-half pound each of hard soap and kerosene oil, in three gallons of water. This was applied August 27, and an examination the next day showed that many, if not all the worms were destroyed. The worms are sometimes so completely shielded and hidden by the mass of leaves, that it is difficult to reach them all with the first application, and the remedy should be repeated until all are destroyed.

#### Sumac.

This business which received its first impulse in this country through the writings of Dr. J. H. Houghton, in the *Gardeners' Monthly*, has, especially at Petersburg, in Virginia, reached large proportions and become a very important industry. The receipts of leaves this year will aggregate over 7,000,000 pounds. Three large factories are kept in constant operation, and their products find ready sale. The Virginia sumac is said to be the best in the

market, and has latterly superseded the foreign article. Many hundreds of country people make their living in the summer and early fall seasons by gathering the leaves, and for hundreds of miles around the country, contributory to the Petersburg market.—*Ed. Gar. Mon.*

IN another column of this journal, will be found the advertisement of The Superior Drill Co., of Springfield, Ohio. This Company is engaged in the manufacture of the well-known Superior Force Feed Grain Drills. The goods manufactured by this Company, are of the very best of their class.

This drill is so constructed, that the fertilizer can be sown at such times and in such quantities as the operator of the drill may desire, without effecting in any manner the flow of the grain, which is also under perfect control. If any of our readers are interested in the purchase of drills, they would do well to write to the Superior Drill Company, for their illustrated catalogue, which they send free on application.

#### Journalistic.

"THE HUMANE EDUCATOR," is a new claimant for public patronage, and which we think, well deserves the support it claims, from the cause it advocates and the neat form in which it is issued, well illustrated as it is. Its third number has an excellent illustration of "Grandma, Bertha and Roxie." Its object is the amelioration, and the punishment of that cruelty to children and domestic animals, too often seen in our most polished societies, exercised by brutish men and savage children toward the helpless of our race, and the uncomplaining, because unspeaking, domestic animals. Daily, we see instances of this in our walks, and yet this cruelty goes unrebuked, because "what is everybody's business is nobody's business." We have here a journal devoted to this business, well conducted and published at \$1 00 per year, in Cincinnati, by the Ohio State Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and Animals. Direct to Oscar B. Todhunter, Editor. We like to see this forward step in civilization, while we condemn much, that is fashionable lately, as heightened religious humanitarianism.

THE MARLBORO' GAZETTE entered upon its 49th volume, and celebrated its 48th birthday on the 25th of June, and is as reliable, bright and newsworthy as ever, with the added power, that age and experience brings. It was established by the father of the present Editor in 1836. The *Port Tobacco Times*, has entered upon its 41st volume.

## THE DAIRY.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### Holstein Cows for Milk.

So many astonishing yields of individual Holsteins have been reported during the past few months that we feel a little modest about mentioning the records made at Lakeside.

On April 1st last, ten different cows in our herd had made yearly records ranging from 14,000 to 18,000 lbs., with an average of 15,608 lbs., 6 3-10 ozs. These included every mature cow that we had owned long enough to make a year's record, excepting one which had been kept for family use and thus prevented from making a record. By this average we think one can form a more correct estimate of the quality of a herd than by a single record, even though that record be an exceptional and astonishing one.

Clothilde has just closed her four-year-record, with a total of 17,970 lbs. 3 ozs., which, considering her former performances—3 and 4 yr. old average 16,796 lbs. 2½ ozs.; 2, 3 and 4 year old av. 14,185 lbs. 8 oz.—is one of the most wonderful records yet reported. She dropped her first calf when only 22 months old, soon after importation, and just after coming out of quarantine, and gave in 11½ mos., 8,964 lbs. 2 ozs. This was immediately followed by a 3-year old record of 60 lbs. in a day, 1,733 lbs. 10 ozs. in a month, and 15,622 lbs. 2 ozs. in a year, making a grand total in 3 years, as a 2, 3 and 4 year old, of 42,557 lbs. 2 ozs.

Of the cows now milking we will mention the following, with the records to June 1st and time each has been milked. None of these are being pushed for large yields and all have the same treatment and attention:

Netherland Dowager, 9 year old record, 12,734 lbs. 2 ozs. 1 yr. Dream of Holland, 8 year, in 7 mos., 8,915 lbs. 2 ozs. Crown Jewel, 6 year, 14,714 lbs. 1 oz. 1 year. Netherland Baroness, 6 year, in 10 mos., 11,249 lbs. 7 ozs. Aaggie Rosa, 6 year, 16,156 lbs. 10 ozs. 1 yr. Netherland Duchess, 5 year, 16,520 lbs. 7 ozs. 1 yr. Aaggie Cornelia 2nd, 5 year, 10 ds., 4,278 lbs. 13 ozs. Aaggie Beauty, 4 year, 13,573 lbs. 15 ozs. 1 yr. Netherland Princess, 4 year, 12,789 lbs. 13 ozs. 1 yr. Clothilde, 4 year, 17,970 lbs. 3 ozs. 1 yr. Carlotta, 4 year,

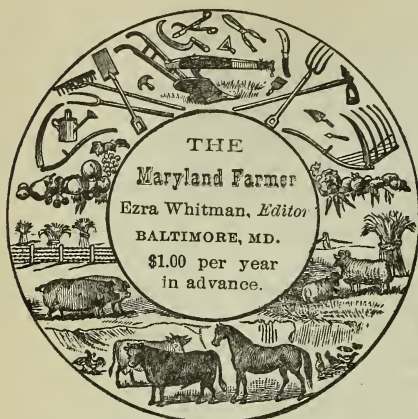
10 mos. 19 ds., 10,509 lbs. 14 ozs. Cameo, 4 year, 10 mos., 10,837 lbs. 13 ozs. Netherland Consort, 4 year, 4 mos., 5,363 lbs. 4 ozs. Addie, 4 year, 6 mos. 17 ds., 8,608 lbs. Lida, 2 years past, 6 mos. 8 ds., 7,451 lbs. 2 ozs. Aaggie Leila, 2 years past, 3 mos. 20 ds., 3,745 lbs. 6 ozs. Netherland Belle, 3 year, 13,649 lbs. 6 ozs. 1 yr. Netherland Consort, 2 year, 10,238 lbs. 7 ozs. 1 yr. Netherland Countess, 2 year, 9,481 lbs. 12 ozs. 1 yr. Netherland Baroness 2nd, 2 year, 10,825 lbs. 9 ozs. 1 yr. Aegis 6th, 2 year, 5 mos. 16 ds., 5,871 lbs. 15 ozs. Aaggie May, 2 year, 11 mos. 11 ds., 9,279 lbs. 6 ozs. Aaggie Beauty 2nd, 2 year, 11 mos. 14 ds., 9,684 lbs., 2 ozs.

These records, under the circumstances, we consider very promising and earnestly hope that your readers will carefully study them.

SMITHS & POWELL.

THE PROLIFIC JERSEY COW.—Col. Hoo sold Eurotas, fifteen years ago, for \$300. Her produce since is valued at \$75,000, and \$15,000 has been refused for her. It is estimated that there are now in the United States, of this breed, 20,000 females, at an average value of \$400 each, and 5,500 males of an average of \$300, aggregating nearly \$1,000,000 in value—a growth of less than twenty years. Females are held as high as \$20,000 each, and almost as much has been paid for a bull. This number, however, great as it seems, gives but an average of one Jersey to each 300 farmers in the country.

DESTROY THE WEEDS IN DAIRY PASTURES.—It is a good time now to go over the pasture, to see that no foul weeds that will flavor milk or poison cows are creeping into them. At this season of the year, when drought is apt to shorten the grass supply, cattle will eat weeds that they would avoid at other times. We have often seen cheese and butter injured, and cows sicken and dry in their milk, from eating, in July and August, such noisome weeds as wild carrot, poison hemlock (*cicuta maculatus*), wild cherry, lobelia, ragweed, Mayweed, and the like, occasioning many times more loss than the labor of exterminating them. By attacking them in midsummer, when it is hot and dry, and before their seeds mature, they are more easily and effectually destroyed than at any other season—*National Live Stock Register*.



### A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

**Agriculture Live Stock and Rural Economy.**

**Oldest Agricultural Journal in Maryland,  
and for ten years the only one.**

EZRA WHITMAN, Editor and Proprietor.  
COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor.

**141 WEST PRATT STREET,  
BALTIMORE, MD.**

**BALTIMORE, AUGUST 1st, 1884.**

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Advertisements to secure insertion in the ensuing month should be sent in by the 20th of the month.

### To Our Patrons.

As we now are well on our 21st year, we are sure our old subscribers will see the justice and propriety of renewing their subscriptions for 1884, and in doing so, settle all arrearages, if any are due us.

We do hope, as we have no travelling agents, that every old subscriber and every friend of the MARYLAND FARMER will use his or her influence to obtain for this year as many additional subscribers as possible. To prove our desire to extend agricultural knowledge, at the least possible cost, we will furnish our Monthly Journal at the low price of \$1.00 per year, and give to each subscriber who pays in advance a nice premium of one of either of the following books:

**KENDALS TREATISE ON THE HORSE,  
SCRIBNER'S LUMBER BOOK,  
SCRIBNER'S GRAIN TABLES,  
Horses, Their Feed and Their Feet,—new.**

And to such as will add 50 cents extra to the amount due, we we will send a dollar book

#### PALLISER'S MODEL HOMES.

GARDEN AND FARM TOPICS, by Peter Henderson, Price \$1 50, or with *Maryland Farmer* for one year \$2.00. See notice in this number of this work.

THE WORLD'S CYCLOPEDIA, price \$1.00 or with *Maryland Farmer* for one year \$1.50. See notices elsewhere of this book in this number.

Such offers of premiums will reduce the price of the MARYLAND FARMER to almost nothing, postage thereon being pre-paid by the publisher.

**New First-Class Sewing Machines  
at Half Price.**

PAYABLE IN SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE  
"MARYLAND FARMER."

**CLUBBING.**—For the purpose of aiding our subscribers to an economical benefit of other Journals in our line, we have consented to club with the following for 1884:

The Breeders Weekly Gazette, Chicago, Ill., price \$3.00; with Maryland Farmer, \$3.25.

American Angler, price \$3.00; with Maryland Farmer, \$3.25.

Live Stock Monthly, Portland, Me., price \$1.00; with Maryland Farmer, \$1.50.

Poultry Yard, Hartford, Conn., price \$1.50; with Maryland Farmer, \$2.00.

☞ All payable in advance.

#### SPECIAL NOTICE.

New subscribers who pay one year *strictly in advance*, will also receive free, in connection with the MARYLAND FARMER, twelve consecutive monthly numbers of the *Poultry Post*, an illustrated and thoroughly practical paper, devoted entirely to the poultry interest. The *Poultry Post* is not an advertising sheet, but a legitimate publication, containing in each issue twelve or more columns of just such practical information upon the breeding, rearing, feeding, housing and marketing of poultry, as is needed by, and useful to every farmer, and it will be furnished to new subscribers on the above terms.

**NOTICE!**—In our June number, we enclosed bills to all who had overlooked payment of their subscription, and by an oversight we neglected in some cases, to enclose also a printed envelope with our full address thereon, to enable subscribers to remit to us, or drop us a line of recognition at least.

We will add that it is very important, that all who have not paid in advance for the year, should let us hear from them at once, as the price of the MARYLAND FARMER is so low, that it is absolutely necessary it should be promptly paid. It must be apparent to all that such a Journal can not be published without money to aid it.

#### Crop Prospects for Maryland, on the 1st of July, 1884.

The wheat crop will prove a little more than an average one, in quantity and quality. Oats will be rather less, and rye, about the same as usual. It seems to be generally admitted, that the area planted in corn this year, is just about the same as last year. Its condition, irrespective of any comparison with other years, is good, and on the whole, about an average, varying of course, in the several counties. The season of planting and other drawbacks, notwithstanding, leaves it over the whole State, about 10 per cent. of what it usually is at this season, which is better than could be expected, under all the circumstances of the present season. The unusual heavy falls of rain in Prince George's, Carroll, Cecil, Harford and Washington counties, about the last of May and 1st of July, were disastrous to some crops, and the citizens of those counties have lost in bridges, stock, crops, fences, houses and damage to land, perhaps \$500,000 dollars, yet the farmers of the *whole State* cannot complain, up to this day, of their prospects for 1884.

Irish potatoes are looking remarkably well, yet the quantity of land planted is slightly decreased, (say 3 per cent. less) from that of last year.

Sweet potatoes are not approachable as a staple, few being comparatively for sale. Yet the product is increasing, and they bid hopefully the present year.

Tobacco has been planted in about the same area as 1883, and looking at present better generally, than it has done for years. It is gradually diminishing in quantity, but increasing in quality and price.

Wool has slightly increased in both quality and quantity; we should say the clip this year exceeded last year's by 10 per cent., and is of better texture.

The clover and Timothy crops do not equal by 15 per cent., a good average product, while the pastures remain fair, they are not up to the condition, at this season,

that they gave an early promise of.

Apples are fair, but not as large in yield, as was expected at one time.

Peaches are abundant and bid fair to yield an extra large crop of good fruit.

Grapes are fully up to an average, perhaps, rather above the average.

### Ocean City, Salisbury, &c.

Preferring to spend the 4th of July at some ocean beach, than in the city, I took passage on the night of the 3rd on board the steamer Maggie, belonging to "Eastern Shore Steamboat Co." for Ocean City. This boat, though not large in its dimensions, is conveniently arranged for the comfort of its passengers. It has all the necessary arrangements and comforts, which belong to the larger class of steamers, and among its convenient and comfortable arrangements, we noticed particularly one, which is very grateful to the traveler. Instead of going down to a confined, badly lighted room, or low cabin for meals, the table is spread in the upper saloon, where one finds plentiful supply of light and air, and can enjoy the elegant repast that is set before him, in quiet and luxurious ease.

We arrived at Crisfield early next morning, in time for the 6 A. M. train for Ocean City, which was reached in about three hours, being 16 hours between Baltimore and this sea-resort.

The sea-view and bathing at this place, equal any locality on the Atlantic Coast, and I enjoyed it very much to the benefit of my health. Its breezes were delightful and invigorating. After a short stay we left Ocean City, and stopt on our way home at Salisbury.

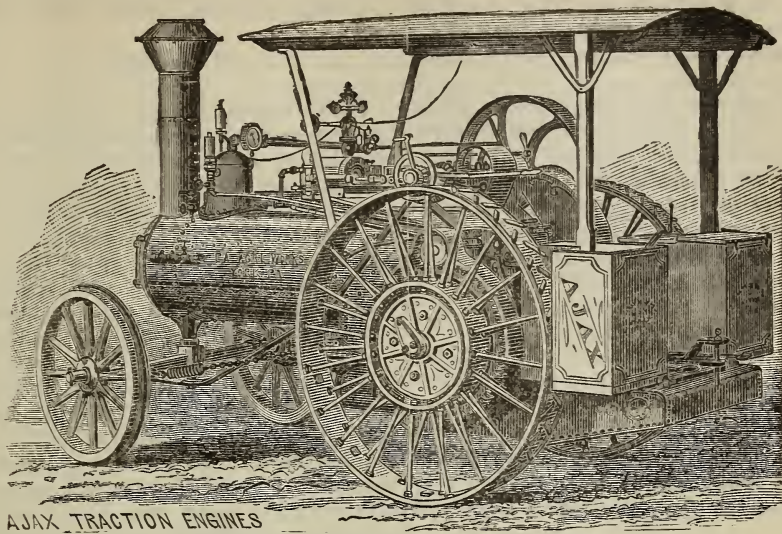
This town is increasing so rapidly in population, (now near 4,000,) and in wealth and enterprise, that it soon will become known as the "City of Salisbury," with its Mayor, City Council, &c. In that event

allow me to name the first Mayor—COL. LEMUEL MALONE—a gentleman every way, worthy of that honor, and one, who comes up to the Jeffersonian Standard, of "honesty, faithfulness and capacity." Then, citizens of Salisbury, let me say, hurry up with your charter, elect the Col. and a good council, and you will never regret it. The rapid growth of the Town is a good evidence, that it must soon be incorporated into a city, with its corresponding powers and advantages. One of its leading articles of trade is lumber, which is an extensive business, having three large, steam saw mills engaged. It has three grist-mills for grain; two carriage factories; one iron-foundry, and between 70 and 80 stores, beside, a number of public buildings. Its marine consists of about 20 large vessels, several sloops and a fleet of smaller craft, with steamers that ply daily, between this town and Baltimore.—This is real enterprise, and it pays.

To show the flourishing condition of this town, we will only refer to what it does alone in some of the small industries. Of fruits, 800,000 quarts of strawberries are shipped, 225,000 quarts of whortleberries and blackberries, 15,000 crates of peaches, 150,000 melons, besides cherries, plums, &c. Poultry and eggs are also important products. About 100,000 bushels of oysters are consumed and exported; 500 tons of fertilizers are sold, 2,000 tons of coal, and the exports of cattle, sheep, fish, etc., are considerable.

The lands of this county-Wicomico, are well adapted to farming, trucking and fruit growing. How it is that this County, so well advantaged, so well situated, with rail-roads and water navigation in plentiful supply, can have so much of its desirable real estate for sale, at low prices—\$10 to \$20 per acre, for good land—is a mystery to any one, who passes over this County and beholds its corn-fields, and other inviting scenes.

W,



AJAX TRACTION ENGINES

TRACTION ENGINE OR ROAD LOCOMOTIVE.

### The Manufacture of Steam Engines and Agricultural Implements.

The celebrated manufacturing town of York, lies in the famous agricultural region of the Codorus Valley, in Southern Pennsylvania. Its most important industry is the manufacture of steam engines and agricultural machinery, known as the Pennsylvania Agricultural Works, owned and managed by A. B. Farquhar. These works were founded by Mr. Farquhar a quarter of a century ago, and additions have been made from time to time, until they now rank as one of the most complete and extensive establishments, for the production of machinery and implements, in the United States. The works were designed especially for the manufacture of improved machinery and agricultural implements, with tools adapted to every part of the work; and having the benefit of abundant skilled labor at moderate cost, (owing to low rates, good markets, and healthy location,) and being contiguous to the vast lumber, iron and coal regions of the country, and in easy access of the great cities of New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore, the Proprietor is enabled to offer great ad-

vantages, to those needing first-class agricultural tools and machinery.

Among his specialties "are traction engines or road locomotives, which are no longer an experiment, on the contrary they have reached such a stage of perfection, that the time when they will be in general use, for heavy hauling over ordinary roads is not far distant. The greatest objection to their adoption heretofore, has been the fact, that it was impracticable, as well as dangerous to use them on steep grades, as no adequate provision had been made to guard against the crown sheet becoming exposed when descending hills. Another great objection has been the extreme hard manual labor expended in guiding them. These objections as well as many others, found against traction engines of the past, have been entirely overcome by the inventor of Farquhar's "Ajax." The patented arrangement of the boiler, shown in the engraving, always insures a full amount of water over crown sheet, even on the steepest grades, removing at once all danger from explosion. This is an improvement, the importance of which cannot be over-estimated."

We have for many years believed the traction engine, would in time be a success.

In the May number of the MARYLAND FARMER for 1879, we said "the introduction of Traction Steam Engines, by which plow-

ing and other work on the farm could be done more rapidly, would of itself be a grand advance over animal power, as at present employed.

These engines are destined to do away with the keeping of a large number of horses to transport farm products, mill stuff, &c. to market, that is produced a distance from the market and lying miles off, from navigation or railroads. The extra expense incurred on boat or rail, by frequent handling of products, when only 10 to 50 miles from market will be saved, and saved too, while by the better graded and more solid road, the aggregate value of the adjacent farms will be increased, far beyond the expense of grading and making those thoroughfares. These traction engines will then be as common as our road-wagons are now, and answering all their purposes at less expense, and at a saving of time and risk."

#### The State Fair to be held at Hagerstown.

We learn from Mr. Frank Brown, president of the Maryland State Agricultural and Mechanical Association, and also from Mr. McComas, superintendent of the Washington County Agricultural Society, that the State Fair this year will be held at Hagerstown in conjunction with the Washington County Society. The management will be by the County Society, but all awards will be made in the name of the State Fair. The judges of all the registered stock will be appointed by the State board of directors, and all others by the County Society board. The interests of the exhibition will also embrace the County Societies of Carroll County of Maryland; Franklin County, Pa., and that of Jefferson Co., Va. Under such a combination, there can scarce be a doubt as to its being a very large and successful meeting, gathering its material from such a stretch of territory. This Fair will be held on October 21, 22, 23, 24, 1884.

**TEACHERS WANTED—10 PRINCIPALS,** 12 Assistants, and a number for Music, Art, and Specialties. Application-form mailed for postage. **SCHOOL SUPPLY BUREAU,** Chicago, Ill.

## THE POULTRY-HOUSE.

### The Egg.

Of the many millions, who daily use this most appetizing and delicate of foods, how few know anything of its formation or structure, and yet, small as it is, its mechanism is wonderful. As everyone knows, it is composed of yolk and white in a thin membrane, all enclosed in a shell very brittle, and of various colors. The yolk is composed of blood, assimilated, through the working power of the hen, and a proportion of oil, drawn from the grains she eats. The white is a thick mucilage, derived from the green or vegetable portion of her daily diet, while the membrane or skin, is made from the woody, fibrous substance of the same. The yolks or *ova*, grow in a cluster on the spine, and pass through a tuft of soft skin, between the lungs and the kidneys, one being formed every twenty-four or thirty-six hours, while the hen is laying, which is enclosed in a very thin skin. On the maturing of the yolk, this skin breaks, letting it drop into the mouth of a funnel-shaped duct, in length from fifteen to twenty inches, consisting of three divisions, the terminus of each being an elbow. The inner side of this canal is very soft and pliable, being composed of folds, lapping partially over each other, the last division being very much finer in texture than the others. While passing through the first division, the length of which is five inches, the yolk makes three distinct revolutions, and the white is put on in the same number of layers. In the second the same length as the first, the yolk, with the white around it, gets its shape from the rotary motion of its course, and also the membrane which encloses it; while in the third division the shell is received, which is a thin fluid, in color to suit the breed. At the turning of this division the duct is globe shaped, and here the egg turns and comes out big end or head first. The egg is fertilized by the influence of the male bird, which passes through a small duct, along the spine of the cluster of small *ova*. The yolk is suspended in the center by two spiral cords, one end being attached to each end of the yolk, the other end passing through the white, being fastened to the membrane lining the shell. These cords are laid "right and left handed," thus hold-

ing it with the heavy side down, no matter in what position the egg may be held or placed.

The chick is formed entirely from the white, and here we see the use of the three revolutions, in the first division. The first layer forms the bone and sinew, the second the flesh, the third the skin and feathers. The first part formed is the eyes, appearing as two black specs, one on each side of the suspending cord, at the large end, next the skull-bone between, and in order, the neck, spine, legs and wings. At nine days there is a complete circulation and life, and at fourteen days the white is all taken up. The cords have now made a connection in the stomach and protrude from the navel in a number of blood vessels, and enclose the yolk in a net-work of smaller ones, and through these the chick draws its nourishment from the yolk transformed to its original substance—blood. After the shell is cracked and the chick has gained strength, these two large blood vessels, draw into the belly what remains of the yolk, the navel is closed, the course is all clear, and having cracked the shell all around, the little creature gets its head against one end, and its tiny feet against the other, the parts separate, and out rolls the chick. Nothing more interesting can be imagined, than closely observing the process of incubation in its various stages, and the mind is deeply impressed with the wisdom and power of the Great Being, "who doeth all things well."—*T. J. H., in Farmer and Dairyman.*

#### Raising Chickens.

Do not be in a hurry to invest in incubators, if you are a farmer, and have anything else to do, beside looking after the poultry-yard. The wooden incubators are well enough for men who have plenty of money, and make the raising of eggs and chickens a specialty. A good many things about incubators are not yet proved, and a farmer who has his bread to earn, can afford to wait a little longer, and use the original method for hatching and raising chickens. The hen is good for a dozen eggs, and, if she be left to her own selection of nest, is pretty sure to hatch them, if they are fertilized. You may protect her against vermin, but she covets privacy, and desires to be left alone. When her brood is off, she needs a little help, a coop for shelter, and regular feeding with a mixed

diet of animal vegetable food, and water or milk to drink—the latter if you can get it. Nothing is better than milk for the fowls. The young chicks will help, rather than hinder in the garden, until they are a month or six weeks old. They will destroy a multitude of insects, and thrive on them. The early hatched chickens are best for layers, but late summer is quite as good for broilers. They never come amiss at any time on the farm.—WM. CLIFT, in *American Agriculturist for July.*

#### Poultry is King.

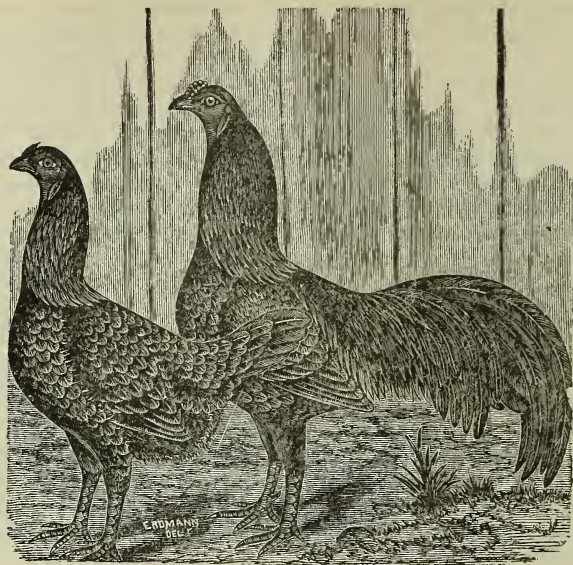
"Some people seem to think that (to use a slang phrase) the poultry business is "small potatoes," "few in a hill," etc., and sneer at, and laugh about it. This conduct on their part only shows their ignorance of the growing industries of the age. Mr. Burnham, in his "Fowls and Eggs for Market," says: "The census of 1870 discloses the facts that the United States produced:

336,000,000	Dollars worth of Hay.
288,000,000	" " Wheat.
155,000,000	" " Cotton.
145,000,000	" " Dairy Products.
398,000,000	" " Cattle, Sheep and Swine.
500,000,000	" " Poultry.

"It is estimated that the annual cotton crop of the United States is about 4,000,000 bales, worth about \$100 per bale; this would be \$400,000,000." The poultry product is over \$500,000,000 annually. Surely, *Poultry is King*. Sneering gentlemen please, with due reverence, uncover your heads and remain standing, while the cocks crow and the hens lay."—*Summit Lawn Poultry Book.*

#### Poultry vs. Pigs.

As you invite readers to give their experience, I give you mine in the poultry business. I took stock January 1, 1883, and found I had 45 hens and 5 roosters: also 12 ducks and 4 drakes (all common stock). I did not keep separate account of the eggs and chickens, but sold of both \$109.06; of ducks and duck-eggs, \$149.91; total, \$258.97. I paid for feed \$67.29, leaving me a profit of \$191.68, beside using all the eggs we wanted for a family of five. This was \$52.46 more than I made off of 20 pigs, and \$104.68 more than I made off of seven acres of barley. Shall try an incubator next year.—D. M. WALTERS, in *Pacific Rural Press.*



BLACK SUMATRAS.

OLD DOMINION POULTRY COMPANY, CUCKOO, VA.—A number of practical business gentlemen, of the "Old Dominion," in and around "Cuckoo," have formed a poultry Association, which bids fair to meet with the great success such an enterprise deserves. It is conducted upon reliable, honest business principles; a guarantee of which is found in the names of its Officers and members. It started with 20 choice breeds, to which they have added the following new sorts, said to be the best that money could buy:—Houdans, Black Javas, Dark Brahmas, White Leghorns, White Crested White Ducks, White and Pearl Guineas, White Holland Turkeys and Toulouse Geese.

We have been favored by the Association with two illustrations, and description of the birds, that they represent:

#### **Black Sumatras.**

"The first importation of the Black Sumatra fowl, was made to this country, about thirty years ago, and since that time fresh blood has been introduced. Their plumage is a glossy metallic black, and in shape they are more like the wild pheasant than any other fowl. They are gamey in

appearance, good layers and mothers, and their flesh is considered very fine for the table, being of the flavor of wild game. The chickens when first hatched are almost white, but this disappears and when grown, they are solid black with green lustre, presenting the most beautiful plumage of any black fowl recognized by the standard. The cocks have two or three spurs on each leg, and while good fighters with these, they are not bred for the pit. The Black Sumatra is certainly "a thing of beauty," and "a joy forever" to any one who admires beauty of plumage, and symmetry in fowls."

#### **Wyandottes.**

"This new breed has so many good points to recommend them, both to the fancier and farmer, that they will surely become very popular. Their plumage is white, heavily laced with black, the tail alone being solid black—the lacing on the breast is peculiarly handsome. They have a small rose-comb, close fitting; face and ear lobes bright red. Their legs are free from feathers, and are of a rich yellow color. In shape they bear more resemblance to the Dorkings, than any other breed. Hens weigh eight to nine pounds, cocks nine to ten pounds, when full grown. They are very hardy, mature early and are ready to market at any age. Their flesh is very

fine flavored and close grained, which with their yellow skin, model shape and fine plump appearance, particularly adapts them for market. They are extraordinary layers, surprising every breeder at the quantity of eggs they produce. If allowed



WYANDOTTES.

to set, they make most careful mothers, are content anywhere, and will not attempt to fly over a fence four feet high. Their great beauty and good qualities, will make for them a host of friends, where ever the breed is introduced."

#### An Eccentric Duck.

Mr. T. W. Betton has at his office, 360 W. Baltimore street. a black duck egg, laid by a Muscovy duck on the 18th of June, on the farm of of Mr. Bartus Wilkins, in Kent county. The duck seems to have been proud of its eccentric laying achievement, and has since laid black eggs, blue eggs, purple, lead-colored and drab eggs, but no eggs of the usual hue.—*Baltimore News.*

BRAHMA CHICKS will make broilers in eight weeks from the shell; Plymouth Rocks in twelve to fourteen weeks. Leghorns need to be sixteen weeks old before they have size to make them acceptable to the hotel-keeper, while they are not so juicy and tender, as either of the foregoing. Wyandottes, we are forced to believe, are going to be the breed, best adapted and most appreciated, as broilers for seaside use.—*Spirit of the Farm.*

SUMMIT LAWN ILLUSTRATED POULTRY BOOK—is one of the handsomest Poultry Catalogues we have ever seen. It is published by R. B. Mitchell, No. 69 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill. The make-up of this book is highly creditable, and is profusely illustrated, with cuts of the fowls, plans, houses, &c., at the extensive yards at Arlington Heights, Cook Co., 22 miles from Chicago. It will speak for itself. In the mean time we give two extracts from its pages, to show how valuable poultry raising is to all, who will pursue it as an employment, and sources of both profit and pleasure.

#### REPORT FOR 1882.

"During 1882, our average number of laying hens, was about three hundred.

##### RECEIPTS.

Eggs sold for hatching .....	\$1,113 67
Eggs sold for eating .....	255.86
Fowls sold .....	455.50
Fowls used in family .....	10.00

Total cash receipts .....

##### ASSETS ON HAND, JANUARY 1, 1883.

400 choice young fowls, \$2 each .....	\$ 800.00
50 bushels parsnips, at 30c. per bushel .....	15 00
20 bushels carrots, at 50c. per bushel .....	10.00
20 bushels onions, at 50c per bushel .....	10 00
3 bushels beans, at \$2 per bushel .....	6.00
1,500 cabbages .....	40.00
2½ tons choice hay, (which we will cut fine and cook) .....	20 00

Total assets .....

##### EXPENSES.

Grain of all kinds .....	\$ 356.50
Animal food .....	50 00
Boy, twelve months, at \$15.00 per mo. ....	180.00
Packing eggs to ship .....	49.00
Baskets to pack eggs in .....	20.00
100 coops to ship fowls in .....	25.00
Ploughing, cultivating and sowing .....	27.00
Cultivating roots, etc. ....	100.00
Grain and seeds .....	9.00
Fuel, to warm poultry houses .....	25 00
2 tons gravel .....	3.00
½ ton oyster shells .....	5 00
Postage .....	50.00

Total expenses .....

Leaving us the snug little sum of \$1,-836.53, for our oversight of the hennery."

DON'T FAIL to call and examine the **Rawson Mower**, on exhibition at the "Maryland Farmer" Office.

## LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

## SIGNS.

Where spades grow bright,  
 And idle swords grow dull;  
 Where jails are empty,  
 And where barns are full;  
 Where field-paths are  
 With frequent feet out-worn,  
 Law court-yards weedy,  
 Silent and forlorn;  
 Where doctors foot it,  
 And where farmers ride;  
 Where age abounds,  
 And youth is multiplied;  
 Where poisonous drinks  
 Are chased from every place;  
 Where opium's curse  
 No longer leaves a trace—  
 Where these signs are  
 They clearly indicate  
 A happy people  
 And a well-ruled State.—*From the Chinese*

## The Pest of Flies.

An Iowa lady writes to a journal concerning her exemption from flies, as follows. "For three years I have lived in town, and during that time my sitting-room has been free from flies, three only walking about my breakfast table, while all my neighbors rooms are crowded. I often congratulated myself on my escape, but never knew the reason of it until a few days ago. I then had occasion to remove my goods to another house, while I remained on for a few days longer. Among other things removed, were the boxes of geraniums and calceolarias, which stood in my window, being open to its full extent, top and bottom. The boxes were not gone half an hour when my room was as full of flies, as those of my neighbors around me. This, to me, was a new discovery, and perhaps it may serve to encourage others in that, which is always a source of pleasure, namely—window gardening. Mignonne, planted in long, shallow boxes, placed on the window sill, will be found excellent for this purpose."

A VEGETABLE CURIOSITY :—Left at our office, a stalk of Jersey Wakefield cabbage, bearing 4 fine sized, firm and well blanched heads. The main stalk had been stopt by a worm or accident, and 4 prongs or shoots started and each formed such a nice head. It was grown by Mr. John Otto, Belair road, near Gardenville; from seed furnished by E. D. Hallock, Jr.

## Domestic Recipes.

CORN DODGERS.—Five tablespoonsful of Indian meal and one tablespoonful of flour mixed together. Mix over night with enough boiling water to cover. In the morning put in one egg, one teacup of milk, a little sugar and salt. Bake in muffin rings on a griddle.

RICE WAFFLES.—One and a half pints of boiled rice, one and a half pints of flour, half a teacup of sour milk, half a teacupful of sweet milk, one teaspoonful of soda, three eggs, butter the size of a walnut and salt to taste. By adding to the above recipe, an extra cupful of milk, the batter becomes the proper consistency for rice pancakes.

SCALLOPED CLAMS.—For the benefit of the lover of clams, the following directions are given for scalloping clams. Chop very fine, season with pepper and salt, put a layer of fine cracker crumbs in the bottom of a pudding dish, then a layer of clams, and so on. Moisten the crumbs with milk. A dash of curry powder, improves this dish for the taste of many people, and they use it in the clam chowder also. The excellence of any dish made of clams, depends mainly upon their being chopped fine or, being thoroughly cooked; and, because this has not been properly considered, many housekeepers never serve them, and in fact do not regard them as "good to eat," whereas they are nourishing, and are especially recommended for children and persons, with defective digestive organs.—*N. Y. Post.*

PICKLES.—When gathering cucumbers for pickles, never allow them to be longer than your finger. A pickle, which has to be cut, should be left for those who must take what they can get, not for the one who grows them, and cuts them from their own vines. If they are to be kept any length of time, pack them in brine. Nasturtium seeds, green tomatoes, and all the other kinds of mixed pickles can be kept in the same manner. Always cut them with a knife, leaving a piece of stem half an inch long.

To pickle cucumbers, just cut from the vines, soak them in two parts vinegar and one part water, for three or four days, then put them in the pickle jar, heat good some

vinegar, adding an ounce of alum to every two gallons of vinegar, pour it scalding hot over the cucumbers with such spices as suit the taste; cover tight and set them in a cool place.

For mustard pickles, one hundred small cucumbers, two quarts small onions, two heads of cauliflower, one pint of nasturtiums, two dozen small, green peppers; salt each of these ingredients separately for a day; then scald them with vinegar separately, and throw the vinegar away; pack your pickles in bottles; take one half pound of ground mustard, beat it smooth with a little vinegar, and stir into two quarts of boiling vinegar and pour over the pickles.

Pickled cauliflower: Break the cauliflower into suitable pieces, cook in water until tender; put in jars; pour spiced vinegar over the pieces.

Pickled onions: Choose small silver skinned onions, peel and cook until tender in milk and water. Pour over them hot vinegar, with a handful of whole black pepper scalded in it.—S. B. R. Cor. of *Southern World*.

WE append the following, from our esteemed correspondent, MRS. M., of Va.:—

GOOD PICKLE RECEIPTS.— $\frac{1}{2}$  pk. green tomatoes, 15 large onions, 25 cucumbers, 1 pt. grated horse-radish,  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. white mustard seed, 1 oz. celery seed, small onions whole,  $\frac{1}{2}$  teacup ground pepper, cinnamon and turmeric; cut the tomatoes, cucumbers, 2 large heads of cabbage and onions in small pieces, and pack them down in salt 1 night, in the morning drain off the brine, put them to soak in weak brine for 2 days drain again, and mix the spices in 1 $\frac{1}{4}$  gal. vinegar, with 5 lbs. sugar and pour on hot. Do this 3 mornings, and the 3rd morning mix 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  boxes mustard with it.

PICKLE MARTYNIAS.—Put the martynias in strong brine for week or ten days, then wash them and put them in cold vinegar, to soak the salt and greenish taste out. When ready to pickle, lay them out to drain; scald the following ingredients in one gallon of vinegar, and pour over them in a jar; if not full, fill up with cold vinegar, 1 large handful of shred horse-radish, 1 teacup of allspice,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of black pepper,  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of mustard seed (black), 2 tablespoonful of cloves, 2 lbs. brown sugar, 3 or 4 onions, sliced.

## Publications Received.

HUBBARD'S NEWSPAPER AND BANK DIRECTORY OF THE WORLD, VOL. 3, for 1883-4—A large volume of over 1,300 pages, at the low price of \$5 00. Address H. P. Hubbard, Proprietor of International Newspaper Agency, New Haven, Conn. It is well printed and conveniently arranged on good paper. It is very full, authentic and complete catalogue of United States and Canada publications, beside it contains much valuable information appertaining to the rights, duties and liabilities of editors, publishers, advertisers and others.

"HOW TO GROW FINE CELERY," by Mrs. H. M. Crider, York, Pa. Price 25 cents.

FROM the Agricultural Department, the two following bulletins, entitled "Diffusion." "Its Application to Sugar Cane, and Experiments with Sorghum, in 1883, by H. W. Wiley, Chemist of the Department, and the "Proper Management of Government Timber Lands, and Forest Trees," being papers read at the U. S. Department of Agriculture, May 7-8, 1884. Both are of great interest and full of instruction.

THE DIET QUESTION, GIVING THE REASON WHY," by Susanna W. Dodds, M. D., Fowler & Wells, Publishers, 753 Broadway, N. Y. Price 25 cents. This remarkable little book, is a prelude or introduction to the big Cook Book of Mrs. Dr. Dodds', entitled "Health in the Household: or Hygienic Cookery." In fact, it is, in the language of the Publisher's preface, a transcript of pages from that book, "in order that the 'Reason Why' of the food reform question, may have a more extended circulation." In a word, a short condensation to recommend and sell the said cookery book. This little book is well written, and proves the authoress to be not only educated and well read, but persuasive and specious. No doubt much can be gained by every cook from the perusal of this "Hygienic Cookery," but it is a bold move for a man, much less for a gentle woman, to make battle with the established notions of civilization for ages past. She here boldly throws down the scientific gauntlet, to fight any champion of the old school of Hygienic food. This writer in we admit plausible terms that amount almost to an argument, by shallow reasoning, apt illustration and a frequent reference to the abstract opinions of men who seek, or have sought reputation by doubtful sources, such as the absurdity of their ideas, or the boldness of their conception; or the wickedness of their deeds. Men have sought

"fame at the cannon's mouth,"—in expression of ideas were with the received opinions of the world—in killing Presidents, or in ancient times, in burning grand temples: but, they were "cranks," laboring under the delusions, that the world would excuse the enormity of their offenses, on the plea that their minds were upset, by the misguidance of some superior, controlling, intellectual power. But all such, have come to find their mistake in the idea, that everybody was a fool, except themselves. When a woman undertakes to tell us, that *salt* is a nuisance, *sugar* is bad to be taken, even in reasonable quantity, *tea and coffee* are poison, *white wheaten bread* is extremely deleterious, no *fluid* to be taken at meals, and many other ridiculous ideas and dogmas insisted upon, in we admit a plausible way, she takes upon herself more than she can sustain.

However, we will see, if this novel, half original and altogether dogmatical system as advocated, will gull the public and put money in her purse. We commend her cookery in part, as showing many defects of the present way of cooking vegetables, meats and fruits, &c; but, in her professional Hygienic system of medical treatment, we beg leave to dissent. The novelty and boldness of her views, may sell her books, at 25 cents and \$2.00; but as to the number of converts to her doctrine, we have our grave doubts. It will be a long time before the reason of the American people can be brought to forego the use of salt, sugar, pepper, other condiments, liquors, tea and coffee, milk, butter, &c., even through the power of the pen of Mrs. Dr. D. They may buy her books as "curiosities in literature," but they never will become believers in her doctrines. We regret to be thus severe in our criticism, but we daily grow more indignant at the assurance of would be "reformers," who increase in boldness, in their attacks upon that established economy of life, which has been practiced for ages by sensible men and women.

WE are indebted to W. J. Beal, M. S. Ph. D., Secretary of American Pomological Society, for an elegantly printed Copy of the Proceedings of the Society for 1884, at its 19th biennial meeting held in Philadelphia. It is embellished with a life-like engraving of its President, the venerable Chief of Horticulturists—MARSHALL P. WILDER—and filled with useful, instructive and interesting reading. The discussions and most of the essays are excellent, and altogether, is a book that should be read, and preserved for reference, by every one engaged in the laudable pursuit of Horticulture, whether for profit or pleasure.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station for 1883—This report bespeaks the energy and accomplishment of W. N. Lazenby, the Director, and the wisdom of the State, in establishing such an institution.

"UNITED STATES CONSULAR REPORTS OF FRUIT CULTURE IN THE SEVERAL COUNTRIES." It is a valuable document for all horticulturists, as well as to the general reader.

The August HARPER's will be especially noteworthy for its papers on American places—"The Gateway of Boston," in which W. H. Rideing describes and Messrs. Halsall and Garrett, picture Boston Harbor; Salt Lake City, described by Ernest Ingersoll, with fifteen illustrations; and Richfield Springs, a paper with special reference to their medicinal waters, by F. J. Nott, M. D. Mr. Boughton will continue his chatty "Artist Strolls in Holland," in company with Mr. Abbey. Art will be represented by a paper on the work of the "Associated Artists," by Mrs. Harrison, with charming illustrations of the needlework designs of Mrs. Wheeler, Miss Dora Wheeler, and others, as well as by the frontispiece reproduction of Mr. Dewing's rose-painting, "A Prelude:" sport, by "Antelope Hunting in Montana," with illustrations by Beard and Frost; history, by the first of a series of brilliantly written and illustrated papers on "The Great Hall of William Rufus," by Treadwell Walden. William Black's and E. P. Roe's novels will have their usual superb illustrations by Abbey, Gibson and Dielman, and more of the charming landscape illustrations by Alfred Parsons, will accompany a further installment of Mr. Sharp's poem-pictures, "Transcripts from Nature." There will also be stories and poems by Mrs. Macduoid, Mr. Bynner, Lucy Larcom, Mrs. Fields, and others. A paper on "The Building of the Muscle," will be contributed by Julian Hawthorne. Among Mr. Curtis's topics in the "Easy Chair" are National Conventions and College Commencements.

The picturesqueness of Boston Harbor, will be one of the themes of the August HARPER's. Mr. W. H. Rideing, now a resident of Boston, has written an interesting paper on "The Gateway of Boston," which is fully illustrated with pictures of the islands and the people one sees about them.

WE call attention of our readers to a representation on page 1 of the Passaic Agricultural Chemical Works of LISTER BROTHERS, Newark, N. J.—One of the oldest and most popular establishments of the kind in this country. Their Branch Office & Warehouse in this city, is 54 and 58 Buchanan's Wharf, foot of Frederick Street.

## OUR LETTER BOX.

For the Maryland Farmer.

JULY 10TH, 1884,

Whilst sojourning in this beautiful Valley, I thought a few items from the busy city of Staunton and surrounding country, would not be out of place in your excellent journal.

Augusta, is certainly one of the most desirable counties in Va, the farms are all so well watered, and such an abundance of timber; crops all look well. Farmers raise barley in abundance, preferring it to corn for feeding stock, it yields 50 to 65 bushels per acre. Iron mines are opening in every direction, and a tin mine has lately been discovered in Rockbridge county, which promises to be very profitable. Staunton is a very business city, and is improving rapidly. The schools are quite celebrated; Miss M. J. Baldwin's, is said to be the best in the United States. For the past two weeks it has been thronged with visitors from nearly every State in the Union—attending the various commencements. Miss Baldwin's handsome and commodious buildings are full every year, and she is compelled to refuse a great many. Parents who are looking for a good school to send their daughters to next September, had better apply at once. It is unsurpassed in its location, and its full corps of experienced teachers; and, every effort is made to secure health, comfort and happiness and its opposition to extravagance. The commencement *there*, was the grandest affair I ever witnessed—twelve young ladies performing on six pianos at the same time, and one violin, and all kept the most perfect time. There were several graduates in the literary department and some in book keeping. The deaf, dumb and blind institution is wonderful; they gave a grand concert to the 28th N. Y., when they were in Staunton. I saw a little blind girl there, only 7 years old, read beautifully in history: and they all were so cheerful and happy. What a pity that politics should enter such a place! The business college for young men is first class. The graduates this summer were offered situations, as soon as they left school. Persons looking for farms, would do well to come to Augusta before buying, the advantages here are very superior.

M.

D. A. J. of Charlotte, N. C., asks us to name in our opinion the "best stump pulling machine and where it is to be had?"

We can only reply by saying that there are a great variety of stump pulling machines, and we

are at a loss to designate the "best," tho' we rather prefer the Pennsylvanian, but some prefer the Davis Stump Puller made in Ohio. The Messrs. Whitman, Sons & Co., will furnish either of the above.

### Cattle Hove or Bloat.

JUNE 28TH, 1884.

"We have two cows that get clover bloat, if turned out on grass, either dew or rain. Eight others in same field and none of them affected. Can you tell us what is the cause, and a perfect cure, also a preventive if any is known?"

W & BROTHERS."

[This complaint is known as "Tympanitis." We referred the note above to a gentleman well versed in these matters, and he says:

"Cattle are liable to the above many termed sicknesses, which truly is Tympany, from its drum-like appearance of the abdomen, and the sound yielded on tapping with the hand. Luxuriant grasses, clover especially, give rise to this affection. Therefore, caution should be exercised in depasturing cattle, and particularly so, when taken from dry feed. The Aromatic Spirits is the best remedy. One ounce in a quart of cold water should be given at once, and repeated in half an hour, until relieved. This will rarely fail, if it does, puncture the rumen with a trochar."

[In this connection, we also give what we find in one of our exchanges, upon this important matter.—Eds. MD. FAR.]

### Cure for Bloat.

"A couple of weeks ago, I noticed in your columns, a couple of articles upon bloat in cattle, and its prevention and cure. Some time ago I was unfortunate enough to lose a couple of cattle, by this means, having turned them into a clover patch, after receiving nothing but dry hay. Naturally, after I had experience, I inquired very carefully into the cause and cure of bloat, and I think I can now prevent it, as well as relieve, if it should be brought on. The cause is the formation of a large amount of gas in the stomach and intestines, to which there is given no escape. To prevent this I am careful to prepare my cows to go on grass, by feeding them soft food, mixed with the dry for a week or so, before putting them to pasture. I have tried the following cure a dozen of times, and never saw it fail. Take a piece of chalk about as large as a hen's egg, break it into a powder, and then mix it with a quart of strong cider vinegar. In the absence of vinegar, pour boiling water over the chalk, and give the mixture to the animal when quite warm. This mixture will also relieve colic in a horse very quickly. I have tried this remedy enough to know that it is a good one, and it may be of use to your readers."—*Canadian Farmer*.

## LIVE STOCK REGISTER.

### The Rival Beef Breeds.

Considerable changes have occurred within a quite recent period in the popular estimates and selling values of cattle of the various beef breeds, most common in the great grazing territory between the Alleghany and Rocky Mountains. Perhaps the most remarkable of these is the introduction, in comparatively large numbers, of the polled Aberdeens, Angus, and Gallo-way cattle from Scotland, and their wide dissemination at high prices, mainly to ranchmen on the Western prairies; prices which at the spring sales of the present year have been considerably cut down. The latter fact is partly accounted for by a determination of many cattle raisers to no longer pay two or three times as much for animals of breeders that here, under existing circumstances, are largely experimental, as for others of a breed or breeds of thoroughly demonstrated value under like conditions. This determination is also strengthened and the prices lessened by the pedigree of many of the newly-introduced animals being presented in such shape as to give small assurance of their being better than grades, while some of the individual animals have little more to recommend them than their being black, hornless, and imported. In spite of high prices heretofore, or apparent low prices now, there is no doubt that the best of these black cattle have great merit, upon which, like their competitors, they will be judged, bought and sold.

The Herefords were almost unknown in America a decade ago, when the bare suggestion of their ever being formidable competitors in the beef classes was regarded by ninety-nine persons in a hundred as most ridiculous. They have shown themselves the peers of any, in the stall or on the butcher's block. In price they are held more firmly by their owners than cattle of any other breeds. They occupy this position not from merits assumed, but from desirable qualities thoroughly demonstrated under conditions adverse as well as favorable, and their popularity founded on the basis of merit seems permanently assured.

Shorthorns, the best known and most fully tested of all improved cattle in Amer-

ica, have, as a breed, for years suffered harm from the distorted views entertained by many persons raising them, who placed pedigree and color above individual excellence, also from the selling to confiding purchasers as representatives of the breed, thousands of the more unworthy specimens to perpetuate their inferiority, that should have been sent to the shambles. There are weeds in every breed, and if used to propagate from, the standard is sure to be lowered sooner or later. Notwithstanding the mistakes of which they have been the victims, the Shorthorn interest is probably now in a more healthy condition than at any time in the past twenty years. Much of this favorable reaction is due to the rivalry and rapid advancement of other breeds towards occupying the fields before supposed to be all its own. The tendency in rearing each of these breeds is constantly toward a higher beef standard, to the economical and profitable attainment of which other considerations, such as color, pedigree, and remote crosses will be rated but secondary. Let us agree upon essentials. COL. F. D. COBURN, of Kansas, in *American Agriculturist*.

### In the Pastures.

There seems to be a growing tendency, to seed down lots intended for pasture, with red top, a valuable grass, but yet inferior to blue grass. There are several reasons for this, one of the chief ones being that the Ohio farmers, do not shut their stock off from the pastures at any season of the year, and the red top being proof against the tread of cattle, is a most excellent sod in this respect. It does not easily winter-kill, and is a fairly good grass for stock, and a strong grower. The fact grows more apparent, that grass and hay are the cheapest stock food that the farmer can have at his command, and from it gets the most perfect development of muscle. While some grain is necessary, it does not follow that, because a little is good, a great deal is proportionately better. While few grasses on a farm may be relied upon, yet a number of the best kinds, including clover, should always be sown on certain fields. On some soils grass will thrive, where another, for some reason will fail, and the same law of rotation of grasses applies with same force, as in the raising of grains.—*Exchange*.

### Care of the Horse.

It is very important that the drinking water be pure. The well should not be in the barn-yard, or it is certain to become polluted. Good cistern water is best, if it can be obtained. Water before meals. If the horse is very hot, give half a pailful; feed uncut hay and rub down. When somewhat cooled and dry, give all it wants, then feed the grain. In summer pump a large trough full an hour before the horses come from the field; let them drink about three gallons each, then wait a moment, and afterwards permit them take all they want.

Salt once a week is often enough on dry feed. When in pasture, it should be placed where the horses can obtain it as desired. Provide plenty of bedding, and see that is dry. Shake it up the last thing at night, and remove all that is wet or soiled. Straw, forest-leaves, sawdust, or any material that is dry and absorbent, is good. Use the currycomb and brush, whether the animal is dirty or not. Go over the animal from head to foot, once a day at least. Be very careful not to scratch or hurt it in the least. Good horses are often made vicious by rough currying. If it is thin haired and tender, use a stiff-bristle or wire brush, instead of a currycomb. Wash off the dirt that is difficult to remove, then rub dry with a cloth and brush. Comb out the mane and tail, and keep them smooth. There is much pride in a horse, and it should be promoted rather than restrained.

Harness a horse gently; keep the collar clean and have it fit. Adjust the harness so that no part hangs loose, or chafes. Do not check tight, or use blinders. Fly-nets for horses are invaluable in fly time. A horse will always do its utmost willingly for a kind master. Do not worry the life of a fast, high-spirited horse, by working it with a slow one. After a day's work in summer, turn it into a yard to roll and straighten the limbs. Never let a horse stand out of doors unblanketed after driving in cold weather. Do not worry a horse when driving by continually clucking or talking to him. Teach the animal to start and stop by voice, and to obey a light movement of the reins. A horse may be taught a great deal by an intelligent driver, but the words of command should be few and distinctly pronounced.—*From Prize Article in American Agriculturist.*

### Feed Cotton-Seed Cake.

Five years ago, I was at Rothamsted, after an absence of thirty years. Mr. Lawes, or Sir John Bennett Lawes, as he now is called, in recognition of his pre-eminent services in the field of agricultural research, has converted many acres of the land formerly under tillage into permanent pasture. A fine herd of Hereford steers were grazing on the land. It was stocked heavy enough to keep the grass well cropped, and the steers were fed every day, all the American cotton-seed cake they would eat. Of all vegetable substances, there is nothing which makes such rich manure, as cotton-seed cake. It may not be as nutritious as linseed cake, but it is richer in nitrogen, phosphates and potash. And as Dr. Völcker well remarked, it has this practical advantage: You can feed fattening cattle or sheep all they will eat. They will not eat too much. With linseed-oil cake, corn and other grain, as we all know, we have to be careful every day to measure out the proper allowance. It is necessary to have a reliable man do the feeding, or some days the animals will get too much and some days too little, and their digestive organs are soon out of order.

In process of time any pasture land stocked with cattle or sheep having an unlimited supply of cotton-seed cake, must get very rich, and there are many places in this country where the plan could be adopted to advantage. Such, for instance, as the so-called barrens of Long Island, and hundreds of thousands of acres on the Atlantic slope. There is also much hilly land which is now comparatively unproductive, and on which it would be an expensive operation, even if we had it, to draw manure. This poor land may be slowly and surely reclaimed by stocking it with sheep or cattle, and feeding them all the cotton-seed cake they would eat.—*JOSEPH HARRIS, in Amer. Agriculturist.*

### Young Men!—Read This.

The Voltaic Belt Co., of Marshall, Mich., offer to send their celebrated Electro-Voltaic Belt and other Electric Appliances on trial for thirty days, to men (young or old), afflicted with nervous debility, loss of vitality and manhood, and all kindred troubles. Also for rheumatism, neuralgia, paralysis, and many other diseases. Complete restoration to health, vigor and manhood guaranteed. No risk incurred, as thirty days trial is allowed. Write them at once for illustrated pamphlet, free.

**Advertising.**

In a late address on this subject delivered by Peter Henderson, Esq., before the National Convention of Nurserymen, held in Chicago, Ill., June 18th, 1884, the speaker not only gave some of the experiences of his long and successful life, but threw out some cogent hints, for the guidance of advertisers, one or two of which we give:—"It is my belief, that few advertisers ever get the money invested in advertising back the first season, yet there is no question but that persistent advertising, judiciously done over a period of ten, or perhaps five years, will never fail to pay, always provided the business is a legitimate one, that the goods sold are as good and cheap, as are offered by men who do not advertise, for the reason that when the article advertised attracts a customer, if he finds that the goods he received are satisfactory, the chances are more than equal, that you will hold him for a patron, just as long as he wants the goods that you have to sell." \* \* \* \*

"But let no successful advertiser deceive himself, if he wishes to continue business, that the patronage which he has secured, will keep to him unless he sticks to advertising. Once let him drop it, and business will drop him. His old customers, missing his familiar name amongst contemporaries in the same trade, will think him dead or retired, and will turn their trade to some one of those, who offer the same goods for sale."

WE call attention to the advertisement in our journal of T. Woodason's Insect Exterminator. It is in the form of a bellows, which blows the powdered pyrethrum, Paris-green, &c., among the leaves of plants, or in the cracks or crevices of where these insects live or where they feed, and thus it exterminates those insects in their hidden retreats. From what is said of it, we infer that it is of great value to all, who grow crops likely to be damaged by the tobacco fly, the rose-bugs, and all other damaging insects.

THRASH WHEAT RIGHT.—The Richmond Grain and Cotton Exchange has issued a request to the farmers of Virginia which may be considered with profit by the farmers of other States. The request is to the effect that the farmers shall not thrash until their wheat has had ample time after the recent rains to become thoroughly dry in shock or stack, thus ensuring its being sent to market in a dry condition, when it will bring a better price, be more quickly handled, and give better satisfaction to all interested in its sale or manufacture, it being a well-ascertained fact that wheat will dry in the shock more thoroughly in three to five days of good weather than in as many weeks after it has been thrashed. The request seems reasonable and opportune

**ECONOMICAL FARMING**  
 USE **Powell's** PREPARED **Chemicals**  
**AND MAKE YOUR FERTILIZERS AT HOME**  
**For \$12.00,** you can buy a formula (520 lbs.) of **Powell's Prepared Chemicals.**  
 This when mixed at home makes a Ton of Superior Phosphate, equal in plant-life and as certain of successful crop production as many high-priced phosphates.  
 Write for pamphlet to

**BROWN CHEMICAL COMPANY,**

No. 16 Light Street, Baltimore, Md.

EVERYTHING IN THE FERTILIZER LINE SOLD AT CLOSEST PRICES,